

AUGUST 1901 VOL XIII NO 10 M.N 154

# COMFORT

THE KEY TO A MILLION AND A QUARTER HOMES

NEW YORK AUGUSTA, MAINE. BOSTON

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The following conditions govern the awarding of cash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the manuscripts of such writers only as have complied with all these requirements will receive consideration.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be useless for anyone to seek further information or personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

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2. All contributions must have the number of words they contain plainly noted thereon in addition to the writer's full name and address with nom de plume if desired; must be written on one side of the paper only, enclosed in the same envelope as the letter and remittance for new subscriptions, and addressed to EDITOR NUTSHELL STORY CLUB care of COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

3. All stories must be strictly original with the contributors, and must not have appeared in print before. Competitors may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; of city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 2,000 or less than 1,000 words.

4. NO MANUSCRIPT WILL BE RETURNED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES AND COMPETITORS SHOULD THEREFORE RETAIN A COPY OF WHAT THEY SEND.

5. From \$5 to \$20 will be paid for stories, and remittances will be sent by check as soon as awards have been made.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this Short Story Prize Offer.

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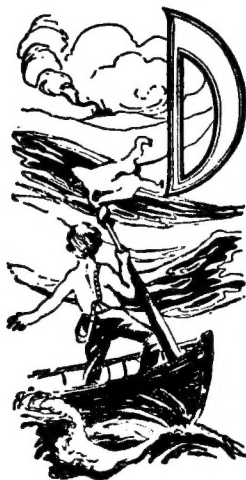
### PRIZE WINNERS FOR AUGUST.

Edward F. Watrous, First Prize.  
Howard M. Strong, Second Prize.  
Carolyn Halsted, Third Prize.  
Mary E. P. Hatch, Fourth Prize.  
Louise Snow, Fifth Prize.

### The Boy Hero of Indian Key.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY EDWARD F. WATROUS.

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URING the thirties, whenever there was a temporary lull in the long existing hostilities between the United States government and the Seminoles, many settlers from the North flocked into Florida. Among the number who went there in 1838 was Dr. Henry Perrine, a man of wide culture and scientific attainments, who had spent some years in Central America and had recently returned from Mexico where he had served as United States Consul. He had been deeply interested in the floriculture of those latitudes and was confident that under favorable circumstances many plants indigenous there, might be introduced successfully into our country.

For the purpose of a practical experiment Congress granted him a tract of land at the extremity of the Florida peninsula, to be converted into a botanical garden. This was to be his plantation; but as he had a family, consisting of wife, two daughters in early womanhood, and a son of eleven years, the question of a desirable location for a residence received his thoughtful consideration.

Many years ago this story of the home of the Perrines and the tragedy that severed its ties,—this story of imminent peril and remarkable deliverance was pictured to the present writer with dramatic fervor and vivid coloring by one of the actors in the tragedy; although much of pathos and interest must be lost necessarily in its repetition, it shall be my endeavor "to tell the tale as 'twas told to me."

"After due deliberation it was decided that our home should be on Indian Key, one of the small, beautiful islands of the Florida Reef, containing less than ten acres and only a few miles south of the plantation, to and from which my father could go by sailboat. Its location was healthful, lying between the bay and the open sea, there was freedom from reptiles, luxuriance of vegetation, a lovely beach of coralline limestone, which with breezes from ocean and gulf made the water circled garden an ideal spot for a home. Several families were living there, making with their servants, a population of forty persons. In the number was a trader who had the only stock of goods south of Key West, seventy miles away; this proved a great attraction for the Indians who from time to time paddled over to the island to purchase necessary supplies.

"Our house, following the prevailing style, was raised upon piles and built over the water; it was reached by a bridge or footway, having occasional intervals between the boards to prevent the intrusion of disagreeable vermin, common to that latitude. In front, a landing or

narrow wharf extended out about ten or a dozen feet. The entire foundation was enclosed with a palisade of small palmetto posts driven into the marl, against which rocks were massed to exclude the living creatures, but not interfering with the free flow of the water. This gave us a luxurious bath house, reached from the kitchen by a trap door and flight of steps. The oblong wharf was enclosed in a similar manner, and used as a kraal for sea foods; this, most fortunately as it proved, was covered with thick planks laid upon stout beams.

"We were very happy in our island home and in contentment and fancied security the months rolled away until nearly two years had passed. Occasionally reports reached us of disturbances between the white settlers and the Indians, but nothing occurred to alarm us. The natives had often visited my father's plantation and on several occasions, as a physician, he had been of service to individuals and his relations with all were amicable.

"On the night of August 6, 1840, a band of Indians under the chief Chekika, left the main land in seventeen canoes, and reached Indian Key soon after midnight, landed in silence and crept softly toward the clustered houses. All of our family were sleeping except my father, who sat by the bedside of my sick sister. Suddenly there rose upon the quiet of the hour, the blood-curdling war-whoop of the Seminoles—the 'Yo-ho-e-he', a vow of eternal hatred and vengeance. No time was to be lost; my father extinguished the light, raised my sister in his arms and hurried us all to the bath house. In vain we begged him to stay with us; cautioning us to remain perfectly quiet he left, saying:

"No, I think that I can stop this devilish work, and the Indians will never harm their good friend, the white medicine man."

"We heard the trap fall, a piece of carpet drawn over it, and my father's steps as he hastened to the roof, from whence he greeted the marauders in Spanish, then addressed Chekika, calling him by name, reminding him of their friendship and claiming his protection for his family. The chief replied slowly and with dignity:

"We make war only upon men; we make no war nor draw the scalping knife upon women and children. Chekika never forgets a kindness."

"After a brief consultation all moved away from our house and as we learned later, went directly to the trader's, whose unjust dealings possibly had instigated this visit, broke into the store, where they obtained an abundance of 'fire-water,' which prepared them for the cruelties that followed. Father looked in upon us for a moment, saying, 'I do not believe that we are in any danger; but remember, make no sound whatever occurs.'

"We could hear them at the other houses as the minutes dragged slowly by, and it must have been nearly two hours before that terrible war-cry again rent the air, as the Indians crazed by the liquor they had drunk, first circled around the house, then burst in the door and rushed madly up the stairs. Mingled with yells and curses we could distinguish the blows of their tomahawks and the fall of splintered wood, and knew that they had attacked the cupola where father had taken refuge. We heard his voice raised in entreaty and command, then a shot, and the exultant shouts told us too plainly what had happened.

"We were nearly paralyzed with fright and horror as we heard the Indians talking about, and searching for the 'white squaws.' We huddled into the darkest corner and sat down in the water, in momentary expectation that our hiding place would be discovered. The dread moment seemed very near, when the seed chest was kicked aside, the trap quickly lifted and a dark face hideous in war paint thrust through the opening, peering into the gloom; so terrifying was this, that it seemed as if the beating of our hearts must betray us, and all gave a sigh of relief as the trap was again lowered. A number stood directly over our heads and discussed the question of our whereabouts, reaching the conclusion, 'The medicine man must have sent the women away in a boat while we were at the store.'

"This settled, in their drunken rage they began the work of pillage; they smashed the windows, crockery, glassware, mirrors, everything breakable, with yells and curses accompanying each blow; they chopped the furniture into fragments and piled it in the centers of the rooms and out of the house. Having reserved all desirable plunder, they set the house on fire adding its flames to the holocaust raging around. In accordance with their usual tactics they danced and screamed around the flames until their attention was drawn elsewhere.

"Our house was lightly built and soon the floor above our heads began to burn; as some of the principal Indians were sitting on the wharf we dared not move, least their quick ears should detect the slightest sound. It was not long before the intense heat drove them away and as the situation was unbearable my brother and I by a desperate effort pushed aside two of the small posts, when all with difficulty squeezed through the narrow aperture, tearing our scanty clothing, bruising and skinning our flesh.

"Now, we realized the full horror of this bloody drama; we could see the burning houses, hear the shrieks of the women, mingled

with the yells of the drunken savages, which with our own apprehensions and grief at our awful bereavement combined to make us for a time insensible to physical suffering. At length the smoke became so dense that we could not distinguish each others' faces. We were nearly suffocated and the planks covering our last refuge began to burn. Each moment added to our distress; we crowded to the outer edge of the enclosure and stood where the water reached our wrists, we dashed water over each other and at last, dug up the wet marl and plastered it upon our heads, but in spite of all that we could do, our condition grew steadily worse.

"Henry was beside himself from the smoke, heat and pain, and regardless of our efforts to restrain him, broke away, exclaiming, 'I am going out; I might as well be scalped as roasted.' He worked out a stake, waded to the beach and stood upright on the white surface just as the sun rose bright and clear above the water. He was in full view of the Indians, but they were so engaged in sorting their plunder, rioting and feasting that the lad was unnoticed. Our own suspense was terrible, as certain death seemed to await him, when our own discovery would have been inevitable.

"Physical torture soon obliged us to take action and my mother dug away the sand from two posts and pulled them out, and just as the live coals fell upon our heads and shoulders, we stood outside the burning wharf, where to our joy and surprise was Henry with a boat. His first instant on the beach assured him that he was unseen and kindled afresh the desire to escape from our savage tormentors. Only two rods away was one of our boats, partially beached, having a pair of oars in the bottom. He dropped instantly, crawled to the boat, pushed it into the water, and concealed behind it drew it cautiously to the end of the wharf; the rising clouds of smoke effectually screened us, as in some unknown manner we scrambled into the boat, and while my mother held the fainting sister, Henry and I rowed for life and all that we held dear.

"Our progress seemed slow, but our young arms had strength given them for this hour of great need, and we pulled our little craft with its stricken load toward the open sea, without a thought that there was no harbor of refuge, but urged onward by the forlorn hope of escaping from horrors worse than death which threatened us.

"When the Indians caught sight of the departing boat they yelled and danced with rage, firing a number of shots, but we were beyond their reach. There was comfort in the knowledge that their canoes were on the landward side of the island, and it would be several moments before they could begin their pursuit of the frightened fugitives. I recall vividly the silence that fell upon us during those moments when so much was at stake. Not one word was spoken but my mother groaned in anguish when a war canoe rounded the island with eight braves disfigured with war paint, whose powerful strokes sent their light boat dancing over the waves, and how we rowed as we saw them on our track!

"Our pursuers gained steadily in the unequal race, and we were almost despairing, when through the waving palms we caught a momentary glimpse of a flag; another instant and the 'Stars and Stripes' were in full view waving over a small schooner. With a promptness and decision marvelous in one so young, Henry stopped rowing, quickly tore his shirt from his back, tied it to his oar and raised it as high as possible in the air. The sharp report of a gun answered our signal, and the yells of fury from the discomfited savages as they paddled rapidly towards the island, gave us double assurance of safety.

"A yawl boat promptly came to our rescue and in a few moments we were on board the schooner Medium, one of the revenue cutters, cruising about the Florida Reef for the protection of our maritime interests; the rising smoke had been seen at early dawn and all speed had been made toward it, but I shudder at the thought of 'what might have been', had the schooner reached the spot five minutes later.

"Our condition was pitiable; we were greatly exhausted with our frightful experience; our clothing was torn, soaked and discolored; our hair was filled with the sand we had heaped upon our heads, we were bruised and burned, but all was forgotten in joy and gratitude for our deliverance from the infinite peril of that night of terror.

"We received every possible attention from the officers of the Medium, and in due time were transferred to a United States transport, which carried us to St. Augustine. My father's untimely and dreadful death made a residence in Florida impossible; we came north, ever holding sacred the memory of the devoted husband and father, whose life, we believe, was sacrificed in the hope of diverting attention from his loved ones."

It may interest some to learn that the marines made an attempt to drive the Indians from the island, but they retained possession until midnight, when with their canoes laden with booty, they returned to their encampment. Four months later, a body of troops penetrated the mysterious labyrinths of the

Everglades to Chekika's Island, where they found clothing, merchandise and other articles identified as part of the spoils from Indian Key. In the engagement our troops were victorious; ten warriors were killed and thirty women and children made prisoners. Among the former was the implacable Chekika: he met his fate with indifference; proud and defiant, with his dying breath he essayed to give the war-cry of his people, "Yo-ho-e-ne", to express his undying hatred of the entire white race.

### In Pursuit of the Ideal.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY HOWARD MARCUS STRONG.

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It was a Saturday afternoon of grand opera. From the expression on Franklin's face one would have imagined him deeply engrossed in the music. That was something of an art with Franklin; he could set his face at any degree of attention and then wander away wheresoever his fancy might lead him.

Upon this particular occasion he was engrossed in the contemplation of the ideal. The contemplation had been in progress for many months—at a distance; but now, to his unspeakable joy, the object was seated at his side. Franklin feared lest he might wake at any moment and find it all a pleasant illusion, a fantasy conceived in his own mind by the power of music.

For once the Fates had smiled kindly upon the young man. The Ideal had found herself purposeless before the box office, with a string of impatient humanity in the rear.

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incoherent words Franklin bowed himself before the Ideal. She demurred.

"Make up your mind before the show's over," shouted one in the crowd.

"I hate the thought of your missing it," Franklin urged.

"You are very kind," she said. "I thank you."

A moment later they were sitting side by side, endeavoring to overcome an embarrassing silence.

Many times Franklin had pictured to himself just such an opportunity. Every look, word and gesture had been duly rehearsed. He would begin with some commonplace, and then by logical sequence drift into witty repartee, with finally a touch of sentiment and perhaps a veiled declaration of his unbounded admiration. But at the supreme moment his usually active mind was one appalling blank. When the curtain descended after the first act, the Ideal turned to him with her face illumined:

"Isn't it beautiful?" she murmured dreamily.

"Beautiful!" he echoed, but it was her profile he had in his mind.

Finding his rapt gaze directed upon herself, the Ideal blushed slightly and hastened to consult her programme. After a moment's pause she said with some severity:

"I hope you will not think that I make a practice of accepting favors from strange gentlemen?"

"It is hard for me to realize that I am a stranger," he replied. "You can't imagine how long I have known you by sight."

"No?" said the Ideal, smiling behind her fan.

From the time of their entrance Franklin looked forward with dread to the close of the performance. It came all too soon.

"You will allow me to call a cab for you?" he said, as they were moving down the aisle.

But the Ideal would do nothing of the kind. The distance was not immeasurable and she could walk. Bidding him a hurried good-by she hastened to join the throng in the street.

It was quite late when the Ideal finally reached home, and she found both the dinner and her father's temper ruined by the long wait. Being without guile she detailed her little adventure with perfect candor and many blushes.

"Great heavens!" stormed her father; "can't you be trusted to go to a matinee without a nurse, a chaperone and a private detective? How could you so far forget yourself to take up with a low—"

"O, father," pleaded the Ideal, "he can't be low; he—"

"Don't interrupt me. I know. Low down scum of the earth. To think of such impudence!"

"He was not impudent," she protested. "In everything he showed himself a perfect gentleman. It was only when he saw my distress over the loss of my purse—"

"Loss of your purse! The idea of any one losing their purse! What if I should try to do business that way—what would become of us, missy? When you hear of your father losing anything, just let him know and he'll make you a present of a lot with a house on it. What's the fellow's name? He shall have his money back with a piece of my mind."

"I forgot to ask him his name," said the Ideal.

"Where does he live?"

"Will you promise not to be rude to him?—I think at the Dudley Club."

Closing his ears to all appeals, the old gentleman flung out of the house and boarded an uptown car. His humor was not improved by stumbling over the extended feet of a fellow passenger.

"If you'll have the decency to remove yourself from a portion of this conveyance!" he growled.

"Don't get excited," replied the young man addressed.

"I'm not excited, you—puppy!"

"Don't call names."

"If I were to call you an—"

"If you do any more calling, sir, I may forget that you are an old man."

"Old!"

"Fares," said the conductor.

"Old!" repeated the indignant passenger.

"Fares, please!"

As the old gentleman fumbled from one pocket to another, his face grew red and the perspiration stood out on his forehead.

"Singular," he muttered. "I've lost my pocketbook and haven't a cent with me. Conductor, you'll have to trust me until another time."

"I'm against trusts," sneered the conductor; "there's nothing in 'em for me."

"Don't you know me?" stormed the irritated gentleman. "I'm Wendell of the Atlas bank."

"The last one," replied the conductor, "was president of a college. Will you pay or get off?"

"The loss shall be mine, conductor," said the young man, and he proffered two fares.

"Sir," said Mr. Wendell, greatly mollified, "you have done me a service which—"

"Which is number two," laughed the other. "I once had the pleasure of pulling you out of the water at Nantasket; you had been carried out beyond your depth."

Mr. Wendell coughed and stroked his fluffy, white side whiskers.

"I thought your face familiar—ah—Benja-

min," he said apologetically. "And by the way, I promised you a place in the bank for that act."

"Say we both forgot," laughed Benjamin.

"But it's never too late to right a wrong," Mr. Wendell insisted. "You shall have the first vacancy. It mustn't be said that I ever was ungrateful. What's your address?"

"The Dudley Club."

"That is fortunate!" exclaimed Mr. Wendell; "for now you can help me out of another difficulty. First of all, can you loan me five dollars? I wish to repay a villain who today insulted my daughter with his attentions. All I know about him is, that he is a member of your club, is smooth-shaven and when last seen was wearing a blue suit and silk tie."

"Just a little indefinite," suggested Benjamin. "So far the description fits me as it might a dozen others."

"So it does," Mr. Wendell confessed; "still, I shall be able to pick out the brute at first sight. I have a sharp eye for such characters. I trust you will second me in my endeavor."

Benjamin assured him by word and loan that his sympathies were enlisted. A few squares farther on they left the car and entered the club-house. A moment later Mr. Wendell was trying to force a five dollar bill and a torrent of abuse upon a meek little man who sat in a dim corner of the room.

"Don't deny it," shouted Mr. Wendell; "you're the man—just the kind of an animal that would thrust himself upon an unprotected female. Not a word! Be warned! Next time you may expect your full dues."

Disturbed by the loud tones, several of the members advanced to hear what the trouble might be.

"Sir," said a large, solemn-faced youth, who had been following the conversation with evident interest, "I have to confess my fault. It was I who secured a seat at the matinee for your daughter. I must apologize for making you my debtor."

"Well, well," gasped the banker, "is it possible! It seems that I have been a trifle hasty. Just a moment—I will repay you. Where is—where did—" but the quiet little man had suddenly disappeared from his seat in the corner.

Mr. Wendell grew visibly agitated. "Benjamin," he said, "can you favor me with another five? This man must be repaid at once."

As before, Benjamin came to the rescue.

"Now, my boy," said Mr. Wendell, "let us away. Honor is satisfied and my daughter no longer under obligations to any man. You must come home with me now—no excuses, come along."

Benjamin complied. As they ascended the steps of the banker's residence, the door flew open and the Ideal stood before them.

"Mr. Benjamin," the old gentleman began ceremoniously.

"Benjamin Franklin," the young man interposed hastily. "You have doubtless heard of my illustrious namesake."

"Pardon me," said Mr. Wendell, "so it is. Daughter, I am singularly indebted to Mr. Franklin. Once he saved my life, and within the past hour he has rescued me from at least three very embarrassing situations. It was he who assisted me in discovering your friend of the theater."

"Why, papa," cried the Ideal, "do you not know that this is the gentleman himself?"

Mr. Wendell's face grew very red, and his white side-whiskers seemed to droop with mortification.

"Franklin," he said hoarsely, "we will forget all about this little affair; we will say nothing to anybody about—" with increased emphasis—"nothing to anybody. This young man," he continued, turning to his daughter, "starts in at the bank tomorrow as my private secretary. Now, I will leave you to congratulate him."

## The Fascination of Knowing Why.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY CAROLYN HALSTED.

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A delightfully informal little ladies' luncheon the other day given by the wife of a prominent New York doctor to make known to her most intimate friends the engagement of her elder daughter before that interesting fact should be announced formally, while felicitations and best wishes were being showered upon the pretty heroine of the occasion, the aunt of the happy man spoke up with:

"What I consider Belle is most to be congratulated upon is her sagacity in the choice of a husband. Tom is the best equipped young man to fill that position of any young man I know—"

"And Belle is the best equipped young wo-

man to match him as a wife," broke in Belle's aunt, not to be outdone in upholding the honor of her side of the connection, "especially if the homely old adage is to be believed that the truest way to a man's affections is through his stomach. I doubt if there is another girl in New York with Belle's record as a household economist, though others are beginning to follow her new departure, and by-and-by it will be decidedly the fashion to thoroughly understand the whole matter of food and food value, household sanitation and domestic economy."

"What have you been doing, Belle?" asked an old friend of her mother's, seated at the opposite end of the table, and who had just returned from a sojourn in England.

"Nothing so remarkable," answered that young lady smiling, "only since you have been abroad I have taken up the subject of what we should eat, including the chemical value of food, the nutrients of food and their uses in the body, the composition of food materials, the pecuniary economy of food and dietaries and dietary standards. Does not that all sound very learned? In plain English it resolves itself into the fact that I have been studying housekeeping and how not to have dyspepsia."

"Bless my soul!" exclaimed her mother's friend, "what put that sage idea into your head? I thought you belonged to the dancing set."

"So I do, but there is really nothing incompatible in dancing and dietetics. You know we had suffered so much in the family from stomach trouble and its numerous complications—though father is a doctor and a very good one, too—that finally I came to the conclusion I would try some new solution of the health problem, for I had made up my mind that though medicine was very good in its way, it was not what we needed."

"But how did you think of learning cooking?" questioned another inquiring friend.

"I have not actually become a first-class cook," and the young lady smiled again, "so much as I have come to an understanding of the scientific side of the food question. I already knew enough physiology and hygiene from my school books to appreciate that every one ought to take different ingredients into the system, certain things to produce brawn and muscle, others for blood and brain, but I had not the dimmest idea what father and mother or Gertrude and I ought to eat for breakfast and dinner to supply us with those required ingredients. When I began seriously to realize the enormity of my ignorance of this most vital matter, it did not take me long to determine on a process of enlightenment."

"What did you do?" asked two or three voices, as Belle finished. "Do not arouse our curiosity and then leave us in the dark."

"I made inquiries about instructions and found out that I could get just what I wanted in Philadelphia. So I packed my trunk and started for the Quaker City post haste, somewhat to the amusement of the family who were a little incredulous about my new project and the probability of my accomplishing any results. I at once applied to the scientific demonstrator of hygienic cookery, and made arrangements to attend the lectures of the expert dietetician and of the State chemist for Pennsylvania. I began work the very next day after my arrival, and you cannot imagine how much I enjoyed it all in spite of mother's and Gertrude's predictions to the contrary. It was great fun learning about the oldest and newest wrinkles in edibles—why fresh butter is so healthy and melted butter, owing to the chemical action, we should avoid as we would the measles; why by a good many individuals bananas must not be eaten raw nor tomatoes cooked, and a hundred other seemingly trifling but really immensely important items of daily living."

"It was jolly fun, too, going over to the Woman's Medical College, donning a big apron and experimenting in the laboratory, testing and proving all sorts of chemical theories. How hard I did work! Some days I started at eight o'clock in the morning. But it was all so fascinating, learning the mysteries of food from its chemical and physiological aspect—how to prepare a bill of fare for a person suffering from consumption or typhoid fever, nervous prostration or numerous other ills that flesh is heir to."

"Her father says she is his right hand man since she has taken to domestic science," put in Belle's mother, beaming upon her offspring with maternal pride. "He intrusts to her the diet of his patients, and she makes out each menu in quite a professional manner."

"She has become a food expert, too," added Gertrude with sisterly zeal, "and is appealed to by editors for opinions on gastronomy, by promoters of health food for receipts and testimonials, by educators and physicians, by heads of training schools and hospitals who want her to lecture and to bring her knowledge and experience before the public for its edification."

"Why, Belle, I did not know you were such a remarkable girl," declared her mother's old friend.

"And all because I have taken the trouble to find out what every woman should know as a matter of course," laughed Belle.

"It was droll, though," she went on, "when I first came home and took the culinary department into my own hands. Mother was be-

wildered and the cook in despair when I started out to do the marketing, made up a written bill of fare for each day, and gave orders just how the different articles were to be prepared. But the outcome was so glorious, everything was so good and every one felt so good after eating it, that the whole household succumbed to my progressive rule, even the cook, though she has long continued to bemoan the banishment of her pastry and favorite cakes, the only cake I heartily recommend being sponge cake, plain or with jelly, cream, or other toothsome and wholesome embellishments, because sponge cake is the only one made without melted butter."

"Besides," added her mother, "Belle's new acquirements have broadened so greatly her capacity for usefulness in the world. She has taken up work among the city's poor. She visits the mothers and wives, first attracting their attention to the subject of hygienic diet by demonstrating how they can save half the expense of living if they buy and prepare according to the simple rules of health and laws of nature. She explains the evils of intemperance and its most effective preventive, nourishing food."

"Women have been slow in advancing household matters," concluded Belle. "They have a way of clinging blindly to the domestic traditions of their grandmothers without investigating for themselves. Some of us are suffering now for the sins of those same dear, delightful grandmothers. I have proved that knowledge is power and pleasure, too. I used to despise the thought of cooking, now I revel in the construction of new food combinations to contain the exact constituents for health and development."

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## Vic.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY MARY E. P. HATCH.

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HE was a striking-looking girl. Every one in Bixby said what a striking-looking girl Vic Hammond was. They called her Vic Hammond before she had been in Bixby a month. The young men said that she was a study in black and white, for she always dressed in those colors.

She was handsome. There was no denying it, although she was sallow and thin and her features were far from perfect. Her hair was so black that it looked blue at the roots, her eyes were big, bright, and full of mocking mirth, or they seemed so. Her lips were red as a cherry and beautifully curved, her form angular but graceful, her hands well formed and muscular, and with a habit of talking quite contrary-wise to what she was saying, so that people took to watching them after awhile to get at her real meaning. When, for instance, she was talking primly to Mrs. Boone, the great lady of the town, who, however, was a miracle of boredom, not to say vanity, her long, lithe fingers were a whole pantomime of fun; when Ben Boynton fell in love with her and told his friends he meant to marry her and settle down this time, she heard of it and talked to such purpose with those slim fingers that, despite the courtesy of her tongue he took his fascinations elsewhere. She was contrary in other things, too. She always did things out of season, one might almost say, out of fashion, only Vic Hammond made a fashion the moment she adopted it. She always dressed in black and white, but on her tall, dark, daring person it might as well have been a vivid scarlet for the impression it made. Sometimes it was a plain black, perfectly fitting dress, buttoned up behind because others wore theirs fastened in front, and with it she would wear plain white linen collars and cuffs; but then no one else was wearing collars and cuffs. Again, when high neck wear was the style she took to wearing her dress cut low with a velvet ribbon about her neck. It wasn't becoming but there was a distinction about it that the other girls with prettier necks could never attain. She rode a wheel when no other girl in Bixby had thought of doing such a dreadful thing, and when wheels became common she rode horseback, cajoling the farm lad where she boarded to catch a half-broken colt for her and riding it like a centaur in less than a week.

By this time the school directors looked troubled, but said she came well recommended and that she kept the best school Bixby had ever had. The young ladies hated and admired her, the young men talked disparagingly of her to them but were at her beck and call any time that she signified her august pleasure for them to approach. The young minister fell under her spell after a time and then there was a scandal.

Vic didn't know it, or if she did, she didn't care, but Mrs. Howard Payne had selected him for her Marcia the very moment he came to Bixby pulpit, and Mrs. Boone was known to have invited him to her house and left her niece Annie to entertain him, besides sending Annie over to consult with him about the hymns. She sang soprano in church and Marcia sang alto. Vic sang either or both, at her own good will, but she sang it from the congregation, as she had not been considered a proper person for the choir. The young minister considered her voice glorious and said so, thus scoring another black mark against her when there were plenty before.

"If it were not for her sister," people said, and then straightway the image of a small, quiet, pretty woman who kept house for Vic, would silence murmurs for the time. Yes, this sister covered Vic's multitude of sins as with a pure white mantle. She was so gentle, so quiet, so meek under Vic's dictatorial manner that everybody spoke well of the inoffensive little woman from the outset. "Vic could not be altogether bad with such a sister," they said.

If Vic was contrary, Emma was always ready to agree with one even to the point of saying it was a pleasant day to an inadvertent remark, even though it might be pouring at the moment. Then, too, she made excuses for Vic's manner. "She doesn't mean half she says. Vic always is her own worst enemy," and speeches like these which showed Emma's forgiving spirit, for it was evident that Vic nagged her sister constantly, even following her about to interfere with her movements.

"She can't come into my part of the house," said Mrs. Storer, where the sisters had rooms, "but Vic is right after her and Emma follows her back as cat as she can be."

Yes, clearly, Emma had much to bear. As time went on and the sisters had been in Bixby nearly a year, there were hints of Vic's frequenting strange places for a young lady and a teacher. She was seen there late at night with Emma, who it was said followed her and brought her home. After a time reports grew and darkened until the townspeople believed Vic not only drank but did worse. Emma grew paler and more haggard while Vic taught her school and became more audacious each day. She scolded her sister one moment and would cry over her the next, or so Mrs. Storer said, and she added the comment that she didn't see how Emma could live, and that somebody ought to interfere. But somehow, inter-

ference didn't seem easy under the battery of Vic's black eyes.

About this time, the young minister stopped calling on Vic, and the druggist's clerk hinted to his young lady something about morphine. She was not to tell, but in a week everybody in Bixby knew the druggist's clerk had said that Vic Hammond was a morphine fiend. That accounted for her fierce ways and queer looks and her treatment of her sister. Next, Mrs. Storer whispered to one of her cronies about articles of finery disappearing and as mysteriously returning. In a week's time she was quite bold in declaring that since Vic came to her house, not a drop of liquor could she keep, only she hadn't dared mention it before.

Everybody "dared" by this time and the dreadful things that were said of Vic Hammond were many and varied. Strangely enough, they all seemed to have a foundation in truth. If this were so, Miss Hammond was not a suitable person to guide the youth of Bixby, and so Mr. Carter was deputed to call by the school board and tell her that her services would be dispensed with. She met him like a duchess and received her dismissal like a queen, but she made one remark which surprised him. It was this, "I did not expect to stay so long. I seldom do."

"That stamps her," he told his colleagues when he returned to them. "The man that recommended her ought to be prosecuted," he declared vigorously, as he mopped the perspiration from his face. It was a day in July and the interview with Miss Hammond had not been of the soothing order.

That night Vic fell ill, and at midnight Emma was brought in from the street where she had been knocked down and run over by a cart. She did not live but a few minutes and it was all over before Mrs. Storer had sufficiently recovered her senses to go to Vic with the dreadful news, which, in view of Vic's illness, she felt required some consideration. She accordingly sent for her next door neighbor and together they went to Vic's room and told her.

"Thank God," said Vic, sitting up in bed, her black hair flying down her back and her eyes aflame. "Are you sure she is dead, quite dead?"

"Yes," they whispered, starting back in fright. What manner of demon was this, to speak so of a sister, an only sister? They thought they knew her but this disclosure was more than their ordinary every-day minds could master.

"I don't believe you. I will go and see for myself," she said, deliberately climbing out of bed. She was surely ill and maybe wandering in her mind for she staggered as she tried to walk. The women started to help her but she waved them off and like a beautiful demon she stalked into her sister's room, while the women followed her as if dazed.

There she lay, the pretty, pale, golden haired child, who in life came scarcely up to her sister's shoulder. Her injuries were internal and she lay there cold, placid, with a smile on her lips as she had so often smiled. Vic seemed to have spent her wild savagery in her own room, for now she took up the tiny, snowy hand and kissed it. Then she parted the golden hair on the white temple and kissed her there.

"Poor little sister! Was I naughty to you sometimes, dear? Sister didn't want to be. Yes, she is dead, quite dead," she said, looking at the two women. "I am glad. I have never been glad before, at any rate not in a long time. I can rest now," and she went to her chamber, lay down in her bed and crossed her arms on her breast. "You may leave me now," she said to the women, and they went their way, too dumbfounded for words. They could only look into each other's eyes and gasp, "Who would have thought it? She might have murdered us all in our beds."

"I've read of such folks but I never expected to see one," said Mrs. Storer.

In the morning, Vic was raging in a high fever. "She is dead and now I can die. I am so glad for I'm tired of living. I wanted to die but I couldn't until she did. You know how that was," she said to the doctor.

"Yes, I know," he said, soothingly.

"You are a bright man and you can see now that I have got a chance to die. We were alone, Em and I. Mother left her to me. I had to live. Poor Em! she looked like an angel, didn't she?"

"She did, indeed."

"Well, she wasn't quite. What have I been saying, doctor?" she asked suddenly, with sane, questioning gaze.

"Nothing of any consequence."

"O, I'm so tired, I want to die. Don't you think you could let me die if I paid you well?"

"I want you to live, Miss Hammond. You have a splendid vitality and are so young."

"Young! Why, I am a thousand years old. I've lived through eternities of suffering. I shall die tonight, doctor, and don't you forget it," she said with her old reckless manner, intensified by delirium.

The night wore away with doctor and nurse to watch. Toward daybreak she whispered, with a faint, wan smile, "I knew best. God is going to let me die. Poor Em!" and she breathed her last, while the watchers stood agape with the tragedy of it all.

Both dead! both fair, beautiful sisters, but a few hours before so full of youthful life!

News was sent to Rev. Stanwood Hastings who had recommended Vic as an able teacher.

"She was a noble woman," he said as he stood looking down upon the pallid face in the coffin where Vic lay.

"You mean her sister, this one," said Mrs. Storer, indicating by a wave of her hand the smaller coffin beside her. A quail of disgust crossed Mr. Hastings' face but it was quickly banished.

"Poor soul! she could not help it, perhaps, but she killed her sister. Is it possible," he exclaimed, seeing the surprised faces about him, "that you did not know Emma Hammond as she was?"

"We thought Victoria was the one, not Emma," said Mrs. Storer after a time the light slowly breaking on her mind.

"Emma Hammond from her childhood was an inexpressible care, a torture to her sister. She watched over her night and day, returned the articles she stole, brought her home from beer saloons, followed her into the street and kept her from consuming morphine as much as possible. Victoria was a fine teacher but she could never stay in one place long for Emma behaved so badly that they had to leave. You must have been strangely blind in Bixby."

"We were."

"Well, they are both gone and I am glad that they are in God's hands. Vic suffered tortures daily but was strangely proud. Nobody knew it. Her parents were known to me. The mother was a lovely woman, the father what Emma



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was. She inherited his vices. Perhaps the blame was not hers but his alone. God knows, God will judge."

## The Boiled Codfish.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY LOUISE SNOW.

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mother," enunciated Fortune slowly and laughing. "Make it into syllables and—"

"Plunge in the pudding whilst the water seethes fiercely, Fortune. Didst sprinkle it freely with the dried plums thy brothers love so well?" commanded and questioned Mistress Fairfax, interrupting her daughter, and ignoring further notice of the vegetable's troublesome name.

But as she stepped swiftly to and fro at the spinning wheel, drawing fine the soft lengths of white fleece, she muttered low to herself, "A barbarous name, a truly savage—"

The heavy oaken house door that had been left unbarred swung quickly in on its hinges, and a tall Indian followed by two others strode with light footstep to the fireside.

With no further salutation than a hoarse "Ugh!" the foremost of the unannounced and unceremonious visitors thrust his brawny arm down into the kettle and drew up the scalding codfish, then abruptly made for the door with it, the two other Indians solidly following.

"Not so fast, Master Redskin! Yield thy unlawful plunder. Nay? But thou shalt!"

And while she spoke Fortune nimbly snatched away the steaming codfish, and slapped the thief squarely in the face with the back of it, then deftly soused it in a bucket of clear water, and wiping it with a fresh towel, she calmly replaced it in the kettle.

The purloiner after another discomfited "Ugh!" passed on with his companions out at the door and disappeared.

"Fortune, child! Whatever hast thou done?" exclaimed her mother in affright. "Oh, child, thou'st fearfully angered the Red men, and thou well knowest what that augurs! And what wilt thy father say?"

"I wot not but that my father will be well pleased, when he comes home, hungry and tired

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## Heart Disease

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after his long day of toil, rather than that it should have been devoured by yon lazy thief. I could not bide that my father and my brothers should go lacking their needful food, and this the last fish left in the tub!"

Brave Fortune spoke sturdily in the glow and excitement of the moment, yet afterward her heart misgave her, when she remembered that her father had distinctly charged all the family not to in any way give the savages cause for offence, as he was most anxious to keep the peace with them if it were possible.

And she had forgotten it all, and was the first one to create a disturbance! While to what direful consequences might her careless thoughtlessness mayhap lead?

The blazing logs in the great fireplace lighted up the spacious living room, finding bright reflections in the shining silver cups and tankards on the square oaken table spread with its spotless cloth and made ready for the evening meal; while around the table were set the high-backed chairs, awaiting the home coming of the hardy pioneer and his six stalwart sons from their labor at clearing the wild forest land for cultivation.

Supper was all ready to serve and Fortune went to the door and looked down the pathway leading to the wood, hoping to see her father and brothers coming on their homeward way.

Yes, there they came, in "Indian file," each with his woodsman's ax swung across his shoulder.

A goodly sight, truly! So seemed to think Mistress Fairfax, who had but just finished her "stint" at the wheel, and was looking over her daughter's shoulder, with her hand shading her eyes from the last bright rays of the setting sun.

But she did not hide the smile relaxing the firm curve of her lip, and the line of anxious care that had been brooding over her face since the visit of the Indians was smoothed away.

"Good e'en, good e'en!" were the hearty greetings, as the family all met again, which meant much in those uncertain days.

One of the brothers broke off a cluster of the bright seed balls from the rose tree standing near the door stone, as they passed it, and tucked it into the glossy knot of hair coiled high on his sister's pretty head.

When they were all seated at the table and the sincere words of grace were said, Fortune gravely asked:

"How likest thy codfish, father? Dost find it to thy taste?"

"Aye, 'tis so, daughter, that do I, and was but just commenting with myself on the unusual savoriness of the dish."

"And thou hast remembered the sage in truth, this once, Fortune!" declared her brother Harold, who liked to tease her.

"It lacketh not further spicing than that yet, forsooth, to its seasoning!" was Fortune's laughing reply to his good-natured raillery.

"And, moreover, it came nigh to going without any spicing whatever, save mayhap that of hunger!" added Mistress Fairfax, in troubled tones.

Master Fairfax looked up quickly at his wife, alarmed at her words and their tone, and asked: "What mean you, wife? Has there been trouble?"

Then Fortune had to tell all about the adventure with the nimble thief, and which she related simply and discreetly, yet withal so roguishly and drolly that, notwithstanding their anxiety her father and brothers could not but laugh, and that right merrily.

"He went away wroth, saidst thou, Fortune?" asked her father.

"Aye, that did he, fiercely angered! I thought to have seen the savage turn on the saucy maid and deal her a most direful blow!" answered Mistress Fairfax, pale at the remembrance of it.

"I feared him not, a thief is ever a coward!" declared Fortune contemptuously.

"'Tis true too often, yet beware, Fortune," her father gravely replied, "as I aforetime warned you, against angering the Red men. They look upon us, and not wholly without reason, as intruders on their native soil and rights. But no great harm hath been done, since the savages went away sullen."

Relieved of the lurking fear she had vainly tried to ignore, Fortune's naturally gay spirits rose again, and she rallied her brothers on their unlimited fondness for plums to their pudding.

"How findest thou the pudding, Gregory? Are the plums plenteously sufficient this time, Alfred? I feared me, verily, to have seen yon lawless savages make off with the whole winter's store, whiles I encountered for the codfish."

"In truth, the pudding is right edible, sister. See ye not the proof thereof in our eating of it?" gaily replied the hungry youths, between good mouthfuls.

As the family sat about the fire, listening to the tales told by Goodman Fairfax of the Mother country and the dear old home across the water, Fortune suddenly ceased the rapid click of her knitting needles, and glanced quickly toward the uncurtained window.

But not quick enough, Fortune, to note the dark eye peering in on you all, with anything but a friendly look, although you did hear the subdued rustle of a softly moccasined footstep.

"What didst hear, sister?" asked her brother Ralph, who had observed her quick glance toward the window.

"The rose tree brushing 'gainst the window pane, methinks," calmly answered Fortune, quietly going on with her work.

At breakfast next morning, Mistress Fairfax said to her husband, "Go not to the wood to-day, father, but find work near home, for I fear me those savages mean us mischief!"

"Nay, nay, mother, have no fear, we're safe yet, so long as the Redskins are surly," her husband answered cheerily. "Besides, Fortune is a host in herself, and will protect you. Guard our supper well, daughter," he added merrily.

"Aye, aye, sister, you well know how famished we all shall be, so save us our supper!" shouted back to her her brothers.

"That will I, have no fear!" Fortune gaily sang out in return.

But a little while after, as she was taking the heaped up ladlefuls of sweet fresh butter from the big churn, there came a tap at the house door, and when she opened it, in marched, in solemn file, the same three Indians who had the day before presented themselves there.

They went first to the fire and silently warmed their chilled hands before its genial blaze, then very politely they asked Mistress Fairfax for something to eat.

After partaking of the food given them, with profuse expressions of gratitude for it, and regret at what had happened the previous day, and with proffered words of friendship and

good will toward their white brother, and to all his family, they took their leave.

"Well, it doth rest my mind, and right glad am I to see the Red men so civil, and thus friendly, for I have been in fear of great peril all the morn!" spoke Fortune's mother, with a deep sigh of relief.

But Fortune answered only, "Truly, mother!" Again an abundant supper welcomed the hungry laborers, on their return home to the comfortable log cabin near to the primeval wilderness.

Father and sons had apparently forgotten all about the yesterday's episode, in doing full justice to the good meal prepared for them, until Fortune quietly remarked, "The Red men were here again today, father, and they were wondrous polite, too, and kindly disposed toward their white friends."

"Eh! What say you, daughter? That the savages were civil and gracious? In truth and indeed then, now are matters become serious and alarming!" ejaculated Master Fairfax.

"My sons, this very night, nay, this very instant must we gather together our cattle and household goods, and at once start for good Fort Plymouth, and give to all our friends and neighbors warning as we go!"

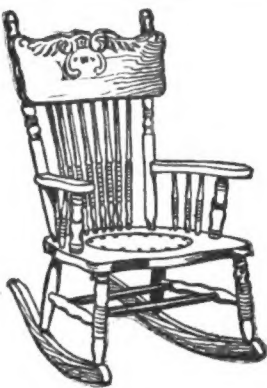
So they did. And next morning's sun shone down on the deserted homestead, now only a smoldering ruin, like many others, though they and their friends all escaped their savage enemies.

And one of those stout old high backed chairs, that were set around the big table in that pioneer home, and which came to this New World in the good ship Mayflower, is yet stanch and strong.

For the story here related is a true one, told the writer by a direct descendant of the family, the name here changed, standing prominent in our country's early history.

THE National Museum has lately received from California the entire Hudson collection of Indian Basket work. This is the finest collection in existence and can never be duplicated, as basket making is already dying out among the Indians. This collection numbered about two hundred and fifty pieces, at least half of which would be worth from \$100 to \$250 apiece in the market. Many of the specimens are sacrificial baskets, which require from one to three years to make and are seldom for sale, as they are generally burned upon the death of their owners.

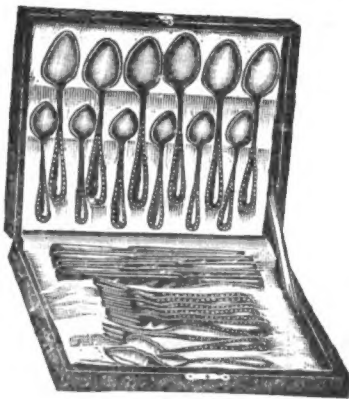
# WE TRUST YOU



Oak Chair

This chair is of solid oak (not stained) with a highly polished antique finish, handsomely carved and turned, and an embossed leather (cobbler's) seat. It is large and very strong; will last a lifetime, and is well worth \$5 of anybody's money. Order one quick and let us prove our statement. FREE for selling one dozen Hold Fast Skirt Supporters.

More than 55,000 ladies have earned premiums worth \$170,000.00.

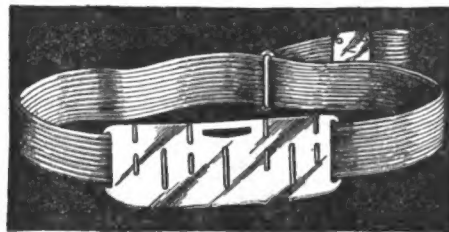


27-Piece Silver Set

This set, consisting of 6 knives, 6 forks, 6 table-spoons, 6 teaspoons, butter knife, sugar shell and pickle fork, is packed in a tasty velvet covered cabinet, satin lined, and makes a beautiful display in a china closet or sideboard. Our reputation for good premiums only is behind the quality of the plating. The design is the very latest copy of solid silver. This set will make a very nice present for your lady. FREE for selling one dozen Hold Fast Skirt Supporters.

Oak Chairs, Smyrna Rugs, Silver Sets, Tea Sets, and One Hundred Other Premiums

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NO MONEY REQUIRED

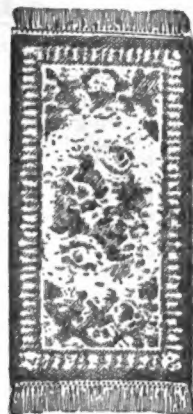
These handsome and useful premiums given Absolutely Free to you for introducing to your friends our great "Hold Fast" Waist and Skirt Supporter, which is the only automatic supporter yet invented. Requires no sewing on of hooks, buttons or anything else. All that is necessary is to put the Supporter on and it "does the rest." It is what everybody is looking for. Every lady and girl in the land needs one. Every Supporter sold brings two more customers. They only cost 35 cents, so are within the reach of everybody. We do not ask you to invest one cent of your money. If you would like to get one or more of our handsome premiums for using a few moments of your time in our interest, all that is necessary to do is to write, saying you would like to earn a premium. We will then send you, charges paid, the Supporters. When you have sold them you send us the money and obtain your premium which we send to you freight charges prepaid anywhere in the United States. So, from first to last, you do not invest a penny of your own money. You take no risk. We trust you with our goods and take back what you can't sell.

We have premiums for selling one-half dozen up to one gross. We send a large premium list with first lot, containing 100 offers, all useful as well as ornamental, and we wish you especially to note that when you have earned the premium it is sent to you prepaid, if you live in the U. S., so you are actually out only your time. Such an offer has never been made before. Better write us today, and be the first to show the great invention in your town. Address this way:

The Colver Co.  
Dept. A,  
815 Schiller Bldg. Chicago

NOTE. If you would like to see our Supporter before ordering a quantity, we will send you one, postage paid, on receipt of 35 cents in stamps.

Your credit is good with us, we trust you.



Smyrna Rug

Our rug is 2 ft. 6 in. wide, 5 ft. long, fringed ends, both sides alike. They are genuine Smyrnas, which is a guaranty of the fastness of the colors and the beauty of design. Order one and you will want more. FREE for selling one dozen Hold Fast Skirt Supporters.

Over 1,000,000 ladies now wear the Hold Fast Skirt Supporter.

LARGE CATALOGUE OF PREMIUMS MAILED WITH EVERY ORDER



32-Piece Tea Set

Consists of 6 plates, 6 cups, 6 saucers, teapot and lid, sugar and lid, 3 bread plates, 6 sauce dishes, cream pitcher, slop bowl; total, 32 pieces. Handsomely decorated as shown above. The value of this offer is apparent to all well posted merchants and makes it unnecessary for us to say anything further, except that: FREE for selling two dozen Hold Fast Skirt Supporters.

## A Patient Burden Bearer.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HE little burro of the Rocky Mountain is, in his normal state, one of the gentlest and most patient of animals and one capable of enduring a great degree of hardship. The visitor to the mining districts of the mountains will be sure to meet with many of these little beasts of burden on the mountain trails carrying loads far exceeding their own weight. Indeed it is surprising to see the loads under which they walk along over the most dangerous of trails. They are very sure-footed and never make a false step. No domestic animal of the mountains is more useful than the burro for they can go where the horse or the mule cannot, and they are largely depended upon for the transportation of ore from mines so far up the mountain slopes that no ore wagon can reach them. Down from these lofty mines they come bearing on their backs stout canvas bags filled with ore to be carried to the smelters or to some point to which wagons can come for it. And back they go climbing up the steep and perilous passes with supplies for the miners on their backs. The writer once saw one of these little creatures slowly and patiently ascending a steep pass with a parlor organ on its back and a number of smaller articles beneath the organ. Many of the nomadic miners and "prospectors" transport their entire worldly possessions, their picks, shovels, bedding, sheet iron stove, clothing, wheelbarrow and all their other mining implements from place to place on the backs of their burros.

One will often meet a train of seventy-five or a hundred of them coming down the trails forming a veritable freight train in charge of two or three drivers. Sometimes the pass is so narrow that the little creatures must walk in single file. Their gait is slow and plodding and they are not to be urged nor coaxed into a more rapid gait under any circumstances. They can get along with almost no other food than an occasional tuft of brown grass in the lower altitudes, and they will nibble daintily at the

sage brush as if they found it both palatable and nourishing.

One may see a great many donkeys in the West Indies where they carry incredibly bulky and heavy loads. A resident of the island of Jamaica told the writer that he once saw a big, robust negro going to market with a tiny donkey loaded so heavily that it could hardly stagger along. Many pounds were added to the burden of the little beast by its owner who had perched his own bulk on top of the load destined for the market.

The gentleman said that he stopped and told the negro that the little animal was too heavily loaded and that the burden should be lightened.

"Yes, sah; dat's so, sah," said the negro with the ready and cheerful acquiescence of his kind. "I'll mek de load lighter, sah."

He jumped off the donkey and, taking a large and heavy cask filled with some kind of a liquid from the donkey's back, transferred it to his own woolly head and then calmly reseated himself on the top of the load saying as he did so: "There, massa! I reckon dat will lighten de load some."

This is a fair illustration of the intelligence of the rank and file of the negroes of Jamaica. The little burro is so patient, so gentle, so industrious and bears his hard lot in life so meekly that he deserves better treatment than he usually receives at the hands of his owner.



The kaleidoscope was invented by Sir David Brewster, of Edinburgh, about 1817.







## A GENEROUS OFFER

**George B. Wright Discovers a Cure for Lost Manhood and Sends It Free to Every Sufferer Who Will Write for it.**

Gratitude is one of the noblest impulses of the human heart and in few instances has this fine quality been so conspicuously exemplified as in the case of George B. Wright of Marshall.

Mr. Wright is a merchant and well known citizen of Marshall, Mich., who was permanently cured of lost manhood and nervous debility after declining health for years. He now devotes his life to helping other men who suffer as he once suffered. Mr. Wright offers to send the medical prescription that effected a cure in his case to every reader of Comfort who is suffering to-day as he suffered. All who will drop him a letter asking for a copy of the prescription will receive it by return mail free of charge.

The following editorial by A. N. Tally, M. D., regarding Mr. Wright's prescription for lost manhood appeared in the December issue of the United States Health Reports, published at Washington, D. C.

We, as the highest American authority on all matters of health, sanitation and hygiene, are constantly receiving letters of inquiry about a reliable cure for lost strength in men.

Therefore we have ordered an investigation to be made into the subject and our medical staff found there were many so-called cures on the market, but that many were worthless and some actually harmful. Therefore when we came upon the prescription furnished free by George B. Wright, a merchant of Marshall, Mich., we instituted a most thorough laboratory examination and found that its wonderful efficacy depended upon its being exactly compounded according to proper chemical requirements, in order to establish the proper chemical actions and reactions in the human system, and that it should especially, and above all, contain each and every ingredient named in the prescription, otherwise it would be quite inactive and worthless.

Properly mixed and containing everything called for in the prescription, its effect upon the nerve centers is truly wonderful and its nerve tonic properties easily surpassed all ordinary methods of medication.

Among the benefactors of the race may be mentioned the said George B. Wright, inasmuch that he gives this grand discovery free to all who write for it.

Taken according to directions it builds up the weak and restores to full size and vigor the nerve muscles. It brings hope and cheer and lifts up the discouraged man so that he once more enjoys the beauties of nature and the pleasures of life. Failure in business and love surely falls upon him who is weakened physically and mentally, and this sad condition is at once relieved and a new man made of him who uses this prescription.

Therefore, upon the highly favorable report of our medical staff we extend to George B. Wright's prescription for lost manhood the full editorial and official indorsement of the United States health reports. As certain as wound leaves a scar, and as sure as effect follows cause, do men live to repent their follies and indiscretions in weakness and suffering. The tortured sufferer may bear no telltale marks of ruin upon his face to betray his lost manhood. He goes to his grave a human wreck, and never tells of his sufferings for fear of shame. Such mental anguish at times drives him to the verge of desperation, and he is easy prey for those vultures in human form—quack doctors—who hold out alluring hopes of cure only to disappoint, and after robbing him of his money, plunge him into absolute despair.

No one can appreciate the horrors of lost manhood except he who has suffered them. No one can help such sufferers except he who knows a cure and has himself been restored to full manhood. A notable cure of lost manhood in an extreme case was effected in the person of George B. Wright, a music dealer and well known citizen of Marshall, Mich. Mr. Wright for years suffered the agony of lost vital power. He saw his physical power go from him as the result of insidious disease, until he was reduced to a condition of senility, and the best doctors in the country gave him up to die.

Like many others, he tried the various remedies offered by specialists for the treatment of weaknesses peculiar to men, and it was this experience that drove him to a little study and research for his own benefit.

He asserts that his ten years' suffering, both mentally and physically, was turned to unbounded joy in a single night through a rare combination of medicines that literally made him young again. It is the prescription of this discovery that his enthusiasm leads him to offer free to any man, young or old, who feels that his animation or the fire of ambition has left him and needs something that will brace him up and enable him to be prepared for any undertaking which may present itself.

There is no question but what in his individual case the results were just as described, and it seems quite probable that any man who believes himself to be weak may profit by sending for this free prescription. Many people wonder how he can afford to send this prescription free, but it costs him little to do so and he feels a philanthropic interest in giving weak men an opportunity to cure themselves.

A request to G. B. Wright, music dealer, Box No. 957 Marshall, Mich., for his free prescription, will be promptly and privately complied with by return mail.



BY EVERETT G. WHEELMAN

HERE is a great interest, of course, in the Bicycle Meet in Buffalo this month. The Berlin events occurring in July and the Pan-American races in August, you can see that foreign cracks will have ample opportunity to get over here for competition. All the best will come. They will include Jaap Eden of Holland; Jacqueline, the French champion; Momo, the Italian champion; Ellegard, the Dane; French Taylor, and other leaders. The paced championships will be decided here, as well as the sprints, and spectators at the Buffalo races will witness some grand combats a wheel behind the motors which are so restricted under the new rules that advantage will be with the rider best qualified by natural ability. There is every indication that the quarter-mile board track will be a record breaking affair. The exposition race meet will extend over a fortnight, as already has been stated in Comfort. The first week will be devoted to amateur contests and preliminary heats for the amateur championships. The second week will see the professionals and amateurs together in a grand windup.

The national board of control of the National Cycling Association, has several very good ideas for the betterment of racing and the production of better contests in the direction it has begun on the grand circuit meets, which this year is made a greater feature than ever. In these meets the promoters are forced to include three professional events, one a championship, another a class race and the third a handicap. In the championship, no man is allowed to start unless he has a class record of 2m. 10s., which fact alone keeps the third raters out of the running. Not more than four men are allowed to compete in any one trial heat, two of whom must qualify for the semi-finals. In this heat the pacing is decided by lot, each man pacing a portion of the distance.

Two men ride in each semi-final, in which the pace is set by singles for three quarters of the distance. Then second or third round of semi-finals are ridden so as to reduce the field down to two men for the final. In the final heat there is no pace-making, the two qualifiers riding and fighting the race as they please.

The class race is of such a limit as to prevent the 2m. 10s. men from competing in the same, while the handicap brings all the men together. In this latter event all entries must be made at least two weeks prior to the date of the race, and the dividing of the heats will be done by the members of the board in charge of the district in which the meet is to be held.

Mrs. Esby, known as Etta Morse Hudders by her readers, recently spoke of "cycling as an enjoyable and health-giving exercise and recreation for women."

When requested to give some suggestions from her own cycling experiences, she said: "An ideal party, in my estimation, consists of two men and two women. Under exceptional circumstances a mixed party of eight members might be desirable but the chances are in favor of the lesser number."

"Congeniality and a close cycling kinship of ideas is the cornerstone of a pleasurable cycling tour. If we don't know a man until we live with him, we don't know a cyclist until we ride with him; therefore in organizing a tourist party, it is a wise preamble to adopt that 'only those whose cycling propensities are well known shall be included.'"

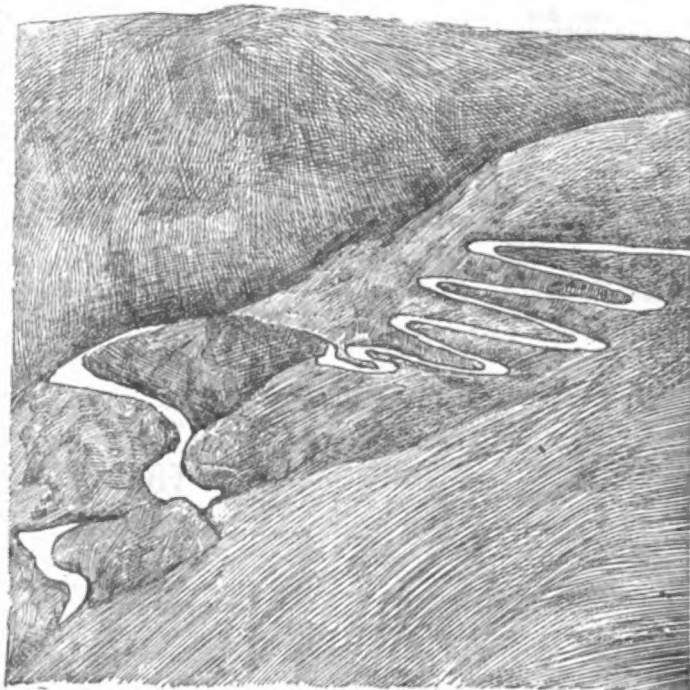
"If a scorching steals in unawares, let him go his way; if a laggard has been included, put him on the train, peaceably if possible, by force if necessary. Those that are left may then settle down to an enjoyable trip."

"Some luggage must be taken if the party is to be several days on the road. Everything but absolute necessities should be excluded. It is astonishing how little we need when we are obliged to limit our wants. It is a mistake to carry much on the handle bars. The best plan yet devised for carrying luggage is a triangular fibre case fitted into the diamond frame. One such case will carry the luggage of two persons besides other accessories."

The case is not in the way of the rider, and does not add in any appreciable way to the weight of the wheel or the work of propulsion. A woman's wheel is not adapted for baggage. A very small package is in the way of the rider and an incubance. The moral is obvious. "If, at the end of the trip, a change of apparel is desired, it is an easy matter to express a satchel to the destination, but don't make the mistake of scattering your wardrobe at points en route. It will never be where you want it at the time you need it. Again, if the County Commissioners undertake to repair the roads without notifying you, a detour might be necessary which would leave your effects beyond your jurisdiction. The secret of successful touring a wheel is to be able to live independently of everything but your present environments. The cyclist must be able to do all the adapting; the roads will not change, nor the wind, nor the weather, and he or she must travel prepared for immediate contingencies. Such riders enjoy all the beauties of the trip and are little troubled by temporary reverses."

"A woman is more hampered than her male companion, both in her mount and clothing; it is therefore necessary for her to dress as comfortably as possible. This outfit meets ordinary requirements: Union undergarments, which should be of light wool, silk, or linen mesh, according to the habit of the rider, but never of cotton material. A corset waist may be necessary to some; heavy stockings of the shade of the costume; low shoes with low heels and toes that are not pointed; knickerbockers of percaline, the shade of the cycling skirt; a shirt waist of tan pongee silk is the most comfortable and will not show soil or dust; a turn down rubber collar of medium height is cooler than linen and can be cleaned whenever necessary; several washable ties can be carried and take but little space. The skirt should be comfortably short and of heavy enough material so that it will not balloon or blow up; in color tans or grays are the most serviceable. The jacket should be neat fitting and with no waste material in the makeup; the Eton style is preferable. A felt hat, broad brimmed enough to shade the eyes, is the most sensible headgear."

In no other country of the Continent of Europe has the automobile and bicycle sport made such strides as in France. In that country roads are as a rule exceeding fine, and always kept in perfect condition. This is especially the case in Southern France, and particularly in the maritime Alpine districts. No other part of France is more favored by cyclists and motorists than the beautiful and unique country around Nice, Monte Carlo, Mentone and Cannes. Nice is the city of flowers, festivities, music, theaters and joy; it is the headquarters of one of the richest French sporting clubs, the "Touring Club." The club has spent thousands of dollars for the improvement of the roads in the "Alpes Maritimes." One of the most remarkable roads designed and built by this club is represented in the accompanying cut. The road leads from Mentone to Sospel, and traverses near the Italian frontier, the notably picturesque Alpine Pass of Braus. Soon after leaving the Pass the road descends toward Sospel, and here it was where the Touring Club built the wonderful windings shown in the illustration.



BICYCLE ROAD IN THE ALPS.

use the wheel to carry them to the links or courts in public parks or to their private country club. In short, where we have to consider the bicycle a luxury, we use now come to look at it as a necessity.

Minie rifles were invented by M. Minie, of Vincennes, in 1833.

Yellow fever first made its appearance in the United States at Philadelphia in 1699.

## Recent Patents.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



NERVOUS people are apt to be more or less annoyed by their bed-clothes, which have a way of sticking to one, while often their weight is troublesome. In order to do away with this discomfort, a Chicago man, Chas. M. Brennan, has just patented an apparatus for suspending the drapery of the couch in such a manner that it does not come into contact with the individual therein reposing. The contrivance has the form of a stand, to be placed by the bed, having arms that extend over the latter in such a way as to grasp the clothes at two or more points and lift them to any requisite height. A few inches, of course, are all that is needed. Thus the sleeper may turn over and toss about as much as he likes without feeling the disagreeable contact of sheet or blanket.

Another notable invention is credited to Luke Rawlings, of Dallas, Iowa. It is intended to take the place of the basket or other receptacle commonly carried by cotton pickers in the fields. Of course it is an inconvenience to be obliged to lug a basket about, also making the process of picking more slow, and this patentee proposes to equip each negro at harvest time with a species of coat which is in reality a pair of huge bags. The affair, being hung over the shoulders, is no trouble to carry, and the wearer puts the fresh picked cotton into the bags by the same action as that used by a man

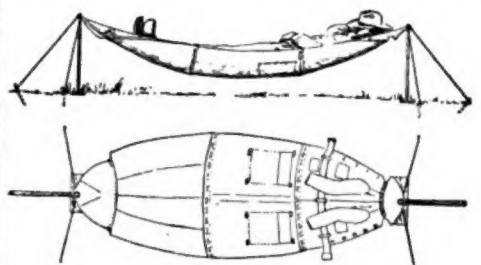


SUSPENDED BEDCLOTHES.

who places something in the inside pocket of his coat to right or left. When the bags are full they are unbuttoned at the bottom, thus dumping their contents into a larger receptacle.

Joseph Conley, of Mound City, Mo., has devised a species of overcoat that is convertible into a hammock when desired. For a soldier's use it is particularly adapted, inasmuch as the cape and skirts may be transformed into a knapsack at a moment's notice. When the hammock is wanted the wearer of the coat has only to detach the cape from the latter and fasten it to the lower edge of the skirt. The collar of the coat and the collar of the cape are each of them provided with a strong ring, and these rings serve for suspending the hammock between two properly driven stakes.

People at sea are often worried about their valuables, and a long-felt want will be met by an invention newly patented by George F. Abraham, of Baltimore. It is a sea safe and life buoy combined, and one of its peculiarities is a series of external ribs, each of which is an air chamber. There is a door in the side of the



COMBINATION COAT AND HAMMOCK.

contrivance which opens into a compartment intended for the accommodation of mail-matter, while another door on the opposite side indicates a compartment for jewelry, money, and other precious objects. In the top of the machine are a food-locker and a water locker, with a suspended bell to attract the attention of passing ships. A life line running all around the buoy affords accommodation for at least a dozen persons. It is further suggested by the inventor that the doors may be provided with suitable burglar alarms if desired, and he proposes to manufacture a small edition of the contrivance that may be used as a traveling trunk, provided with which the most timid passenger need not fear the stormiest voyage.

Julius A. Raabe, of St. Louis, has originated the very newest thing in the way of an exercising apparatus. It consists of a sort of harness, with elastic attachments terminating in handles and stirrups. A person has only to buckle on the harness and the resistance furnished by the elastic ropes will give him all the exercise he wants.

A BICYCLE builder of Philadelphia took his family, consisting of his wife and four children, whose ages ranged from eighteen months to seven years, on a novel vacation trip last summer. He had built a wheel weighing eighty-five pounds which would carry six people. On this the entire family was ranged, and their baggage was suspended from the gearing in convenient places. This consisted of several bundles, a tent, a repair kit, cooking utensils, and a bag containing food. They never attempted to cover more than twenty miles a day, and rested in their tent during the middle of every day.



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The "silly season" for the foreign newspapers is due. A missing word contest was one hot weather development that obtained great favor when imported to this country. As it is "all the world" stands gaping to know "what next"?

Canada is being explored this year by the curious "Pan-American". As the only monarchical disposed land in the "Pan" it enjoys a sad distinction. The annexationists can cross the line and look matters over this year at excursion rates.

Scientists have lately been experimenting to prove that certain insects like the beetle, caterpillar, bees and even toads are fair barometers. They have watched these insects grow grave or gay as the weather was good or ill. It is quite unnecessary to make such a demonstration to the sufferer from rheumatism or neuralgia. These people have believed for some time that coming events in weather cast their shadows before—that life was a better barometer than chemicals.

The agitations in Philadelphia over the trolley franchise may suggest to state legislatures some needed reforms in the laws regulating such matters. The franchise should be granted to the company who will give the lowest fare and the longest ride for a single fare. It is all very well to offer millions to a city for the right to operate cars but this only lessens the rate of taxation and the taxes are levied upon the richer class of citizens. It is this class who probably use the transit mediums least and can best afford to pay high fares. The enormous development of the trolley lines furnishes a new problem both in laws regulating them and on the money side.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals must look with approval upon the little sunshades and sunbonnets that horses wear this summer. The ordinary kind-hearted person is divided between approbation and amusement. There is an absurd contrast between the airy little sun parasol perched upon the top of the head and the long serious jowl of the horse. The bonnets are almost entirely confined to the serious respectable animals who belong in the working classes. These pace slowly along with a steady matter of fact acceptance of life's burdens while above this serious face is the frivolous little bright colored parasol.

We are commencing to realize that for a few months in the year America has a tropical climate. The Panama hats and shirt waists of the men encroach upon woman's domain in two directions. People who live in the tropics get only a slight degree more heat than the average city man and yet the difference in dress between an American and the white men in India is too great to wonder about. The last two summers have witnessed a radical change in the dress of men. The attempt to rival a woman's millinery bill has made the Panama hat a topic for even more discussion than the shirt waist. The average price is about ten dollars but one hundred dollars is sometimes whispered as an extravagant possibility. Woman gave up sole right and title to the shirt waist rather reluctantly but she has welcomed the chance at reprisal and

"Et-tu-Bruteism" that the expensive Panamas have brought.

August almost seems a synonym for vacation. It certainly seems to spell heat and discomfort. There are many reasons why a vacation may bring more enjoyment at some other time. It is well known that the person who is occupied has less time for mental flurry over the state of the thermometer than the idle person who can measure his discomfort by degrees. If it is as hot as our tropical climate will allow, one is bound to be uncomfortable whether "taking a vacation" or working. There must be change of scene as the first factor in rest and there must be physical comfort as the second factor. The result is enjoyment. Extreme heat and physical comfort can not go together so that the second factor of the vacation is often a zero. Many people would gain more real rest by postponing vacations until the autumn or even the winter. Then the change of scene could be gained and all the enjoyment possible derived from it.

The National Health League is one of the many new altruistic movements. They believe that the best results will be obtained only when trained and scientific investigation is pursued as to the means of preserving health. They would establish health colleges all over the land where the main force of study shall be laid on the maintenance of health. All this is significant of the great interest taken in the general subject of health. One millionaire gives libraries to the people while another founds a college for the careful study of disease. The "sound mind in a sound body" may be realized through the result of these two benefactions. Part of the money that is to produce more careful study of disease might be given to the work of the Health League. The Chinese have been enforcing the fundamental idea of the Health League for they pay the physician while they are well and cease payments as soon as they become ill. Such a course here might succeed in establishing the conditions that the Health League advocate.

The question of old age pensions is being seriously treated by many of the most advanced thinkers of the age. New Zealand is the leader in all advanced ideas of government and the plan has proven successful there. The French government has just adopted the plan of pensioning people over sixty-five years of age. The details of the plan have not been fully worked out. The method of collecting the money and the proper distribution of it present serious economic problems. Thoughtlessly administered, the plan might work infinite harm in encouraging careless expenditure and lack of careful forethought. Joseph Chamberlain has proposed such pension measures on the part of the English government. Large railroad corporations in this country have voluntarily put in force old age pensions. Andrew Carnegie has perfected such a scheme among his employees. The act on the part of the French government is pronounced as great a departure in economic history as the French Revolution was in political history. Old age should be a time of peace, not of worry over the actual means of livelihood.

The pessimist often asks if the world grows any better as the centuries pass. It must be admitted that it grows kinder. There is a sensitiveness to the happiness or suffering of our fellow-beings that was not known over a hundred years ago. The man of millions was unknown then but the cities are full of them today and the newspapers chronicle the manner in which the millions are spent for the good of humanity. One of the latest methods of philanthropy has been the establishment of floating hotels. A New York man has chartered three large ships. He proposes to extend the benefit of his scheme to the inhabitants of the city where he made his money. A ship load of women and children are to be taken out, given a good dinner on board and a cool night's rest. One of the ships is to sail every night as business houses close, to give a good dinner on board and to return to the dock in time for the next day's work. Another feature of the scheme is to take families to some point like Newport or Atlantic City for a Sunday. The plan will give a pleasant outing and change to hundreds who otherwise would find no opportunity to leave the city. It is practical and philanthropic. So many of the plans of wealthy philanthropists aim to satisfy the spiritual and esthetic needs of less favored mortals that a practical planning for physical rest and pleasure seems almost an innovation. It is a wise one. The tired body cramps the mind and soul. Rest and recreation seems entirely physical but they react upon the higher faculties in the strongest manner.

"Conservation" and "precedent" seem to be terms that may become obsolete in the sense of a political break. Our car of progress is rushing so fast that tradition falls before it as did the victims before the car of the old pagan god. We are assured that new conditions demand new measures and that the precedents established in the early days when the land of Washington was bounded by the Mississippi and the ocean will not apply to a nation that has expanded beyond that "pent up Utica." There is a growing agitation of a third term for the presidency. The two term limit is of course wholly a matter of precedent. The Constitution does not limit the number of terms a president may serve. Mexico has given us an example of a republic in name and a constitutional monarchy in fact. Washington prevented the possible monarchical tendency by refusing a third term. This has been as strong a law as precedent could establish. When the discussion over a third term for General Grant was at its height Congress passed a resolution: "Resolved, that in the opinion of this house, the precedent established by Washington and other presidents in retiring from the Presidential office after their second term, has become by universal concurrence a system of government, and that any departure from the time honored

custom would be unwise, unpatriotic, and fraught with peril to our free institutions." There may be many sound arguments of the practical value of three terms but the American people are hardly ready for new century interpretation of the traditions of government. A third term proposition would arouse all the conservatism of the nation in opposition.

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317. All for These Waltzes . . . . . Waldteufel	316. Are you lonely now my darling? Cho. Rutledge
165. American Liberty March . . . . . Cook	260. At Noon . . . . . Hill
101. Ancient's Dream, Op. 36 . . . . . Cook	27. Ave Maria, From Cavalleria Rusticana Mascagni
319. Angel's Dream, Op. 36 . . . . . Lange	147. Beacon Light of Home . . . . . Estabrooke
247. Artist's Life Waltzes . . . . . Strauss	134. Beautiful Moonlight. Duet . . . . . Glover
181. Auld Lang Syne. Variations . . . . . Durkee	238. Bells of Seville . . . . . H. Jude
187. Austrian Song, Op. 69. 1 . . . . . Pacher	162. Ben Bolt, of "Tribby" fame . . . . . Kneass
215. Battle of Waterloo. Descriptive . . . . . Anderson	282. Between Love and Duty . . . . . Dryden
173. Beauties of Paradise Waltz, 4 hands . . . . . Watson	226. Blue Eyes . . . . . Elen
227. Beautiful Blue Danube Waltzes . . . . . Strauss	246. Boyhood Days. Chorus . . . . . Fritz
213. Black Hawk Waltzes . . . . . Walsh	200. Bridge, The. Words by Longfellow . . . . . Carver
257. Blue Bells of Scotland. Trans. . . . . Richards	268. Bride Bells . . . . . Roedel
221. Bluebird. Echo Polka . . . . . Morrison	276. Brown Eyed Bessie Lee. Chorus . . . . . Arbuckle
199. Boston Commandery March . . . . . Carter	192. Can You, Sweetheart, Keep a Secret? Estabrooke
321. Brunnelle Waltz . . . . . Bragg	214. Did You Ever Call Me Darling? . . . . . Dunmore
229. Bryan and Sewall March . . . . . Niles	190. Come When the Soft Twilight Falls Schumann
307. Cavalry Parade Polka . . . . . Sampson	284. Come Back to Our Cottage . . . . . Estabrooke
255. Cavalleria Rusticana. Four hands. Mascagni	168. Cow's Reach of Promise. Cake walk Blake
289. Cavalleria Rusticana. Intermezzo Mascagni	92. Cow Bells. The. Boyhood's Recollection Grimm
133. Cadences and Scale in all Keys . . . . . Cherny	294. Crown of Glory . . . . . Tours
287. Chaconne. La Menue . . . . . Niles	286. Danube River Song . . . . . Ade
237. Cherokee Roses Waltz, 4 hands . . . . . Behr	260. Darling I Shall Miss You . . . . . Cohen
145. Clayton (Adjutant) March—Two Step . . . . . Missud	178. Darling Nellie Gray . . . . . Hanby
217. Cleveland's March . . . . . Niles	244. De Ban Jo am de Instrument . . . . . Rutledge
81. Coming from the Races Galop . . . . . Wheeler	70. Dear Heart, We're Growing Old . . . . . Estabrooke
269. Coppelia. Valse Lente . . . . . Debiles	302. Dear Little Heart 'neath the Daisies Rutledge
211. Corn Flower Waltz . . . . . Coote, Jr.	304. Did You Ever Call Me Darling? . . . . . Vane
71. Crystal Dew Waltz . . . . . Durkee	128. Don't drink my Boy, tonight. Temp. Hooper
235. Day Dawn Polka . . . . . Cook	290. Dream of Love . . . . . Eison
163. Dewey's Grand Triumphal March . . . . . Marcel	310. Dream of Spring, A. Op. 1, 2 . . . . . Curschmann
287. Diamond Valley Waltz . . . . . Morehouse	256. Dwelling with the Angels. Chorus . . . . . Turner
299. Edelweiss Waltz . . . . . Daggett	50. Easter Eve. Sacred . . . . . Gounod
117. Echoing Trumpets March . . . . . Helms	220. Ever Sweet is Thy Memory . . . . . Piusati
303. Edelweiss . . . . . Durkee	318. Failing Star . . . . . Piusati
126. Electric Light Galop . . . . . Robinson	180. Far Away . . . . . Bliss
64. Estella, Air de Ballet. Very fine . . . . . Stoddard	182. Father is Drinking Again. Temperance
155. Evergreen Waltz . . . . . Stoddard	152. Flag of Our Country. Patriotic . . . . . Mathies
241. Fantastic Schottische . . . . . Gabriel	156. Flag, The. Quartette . . . . . Fox
291. Fatintza Galop . . . . . Ludwig	144. Flirting in the Starlight . . . . . Cohen
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77. Fifth Nocturne . . . . . Leybach	66. For You We are Praying at Home . . . . . Estabrooke
233. Flirting in the Starlight. Waltz . . . . . Lasaide	166. From our Home the Loved are Going . . . . . Percy
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147. Grand Commandery March—Two Step . . . . . Missud	262. Greeting Duet . . . . . Glover
281. Heel and Toe Polka . . . . . Faust	150. Gypsy Countess. Duet . . . . . Glover
185. Her Bright Smile Haunts Me Still . . . . . Richards	198. Heart of My Heart . . . . . Robinson
173. Hobson of the Merrimack Waltzes . . . . . Jewell	272. How can I Leave Thee. Duet . . . . . Greenwood
139. Home, Sweet Home. Transcription . . . . . Muller	184. I Can't Forget the Happy Past . . . . . Piusati
123. Honey Land polka. Four hands . . . . . Muller	248. In Shadowland . . . . . Piusati
157. Last Hope. Meditation . . . . . Gottschalk	266. In Summer Time . . . . . Marziale
195. Leap Year Schottische . . . . . Kuhn	296. It is a Legend Old . . . . . Offenbach
253. Le Petit Bal. Polka Mazurka . . . . . Behr	188. In the Starlight. Duet . . . . . Glover
159. Lee's (Gen'l) "On to Cuba" galop . . . . . Durkee	228. Juanita. Ballad . . . . . May
249. Lohengrin. Selections . . . . . Missud	242. Kathleen Mavourneen . . . . . Baile
123. London. March—Two Step . . . . . Roeder	196. Kiss me, but don't say goodbye . . . . . Rutledge
243. Love's Dreamland Waltzes . . . . . Badarzewske	130. Kiss that bound my Heart to thine . . . . . Kei
99. Maiden's Prayer, The . . . . . Johnson	164. Larboard Watch. Duet . . . . . Williams
240. Martha Selections . . . . . Krug	312. Let me dream again . . . . . Sullivan
207. May Breezes. Four hands . . . . . Krug	146. Listen to the Mocking Bird . . . . . Hartshore
263. May Day Schottische . . . . . Keffer	174. Little Boy Blue. Solo and Duet . . . . . Estabrooke
225. McKinley and Hobart March . . . . . Hevitt	46. Little Voices at the Door . . . . . Dana
131. Memory Day March . . . . . Wei	98. Lost Chord, The . . . . . Sullivan
61. Morning Star Waltz . . . . . Zahn	308. Mamie . . . . . Daly
201. Music Box, The. Caprice . . . . . Liebach	234. Margaretta . . . . . Keeler
125. My Old Kentucky Home. Variations . . . . . Cook	112. Massie's Sleeping in de Churchyard . . . . . Keeler
305. Napoleon . . . . . Parlow	232. Memories of my Mother. Chorus . . . . . Estabrooke
87. National Anthem of Eight Great Nations . . . . . Parlow	174. Welcome to our Dear Old Door . . . . . Estabrooke
175. National Songs of America . . . . . Blake	222. Music Dialogue. Duet . . . . . Estabrooke
135. Nightingale's Trill, Op. 81 . . . . . Kullak	232. Must the Sweet Tie that binds . . . . . Estabrooke
271. Ocean Waves Waltz . . . . . Keffer	76. My Home by the Old Mill . . . . . O'Halloran
123. Old Folks at Home. Transcription . . . . . Blake	110. My Little Lost Irene . . . . . Dana
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245. Orvetta Waltz . . . . . Spencer	90. On the Beach. Most beautiful ballad Robinson
191. Over the Waves Waltz . . . . . Rosas	258. Out on the Deep . . . . . Fritz
79. Please Do Waltz . . . . . Durkee	160. Outcast, An. Character Song . . . . . Keller
193. Post and Peasant Overture (Suppe) . . . . . Brunner	174. Peace from our Dear Old Door . . . . . Verdi
265. Praeludium. Gavotte . . . . . Mattet	306. Peace to Thy Spirit, Duet . . . . . Verdi
143. Richmond March—two-step . . . . . Missud	314. Pearl of the Village Bell. Chorus . . . . . Stelly
245. Rustle Waltz . . . . . Schumann	254. Picture of My Mother, The . . . . . Stelly
127. Rustling Leaves. Idylle . . . . . Lange	148. Poor Girl didn't know. Comic . . . . . Cook
149. Salem Witches March—Two-Step . . . . . Missud	274. Private Tommy Atkins . . . . . Foster
189. Schubert's Serenade. Transcription . . . . . Wilson	136. Sacred. Sacred . . . . . Knight
309. Shepherd Boy. Idylle . . . . . Wyman	216. Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep . . . . . Chamade
169. Smith's (General) March . . . . . Martin	80. See Those Living Pictures . . . . . Guth
295. Souvenir of the Ball Waltz . . . . . Clark	224. Shall I Ever See Mother's Face Again? . . . . . Advance
95. Spring Lake Waltz . . . . . Simons	194. She Sleeps among the Daisies . . . . . Dunmore
259. Sprig Flowers Polka . . . . . Fahrbach	124. Softly shine the Stars of Evening . . . . . Fritz
279. Storm, The. Imitation of Nature . . . . . Weber	218. Son's Return, The . . . . . Hullah
151. Storm Mazurka . . . . . Keffer	120. Storm at Sea. Descriptive . . . . . Morzials
109. Sultan's Band March . . . . . Brown	32. Sweet Long Ago, The . . . . . Estabrooke
209. Sweet Long Ago. Transcription . . . . . Blake	206. There's a Sure to be a Way . . . . . Cohen
115. Tornado Galop . . . . . Arbuckle	158. Thinking of Home and Mother . . . . . Lehmann
103. Triet's Grand March, Op. 182 . . . . . List	282. Tania's Traile . . . . . Turner
223. Twilight Echoes. Song without words . . . . . Jewell	192. Treble softly the Angels are calling . . . . . Adams
205. Under the Double Eagle March . . . . . Wagner	38. True to the Last . . . . . Adams
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203. Warblings at Eve . . . . . Richards	84. What are the Wild Waves Saying? Duet Gilly
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281. Walsong Grace. A perfect gem . . . . . Mendelssohn	86. When Winter Days Have Gone . . . . . Randall
119. Woodland Whispers Waltzes . . . . . Stanley	186. Whistling Wife, The. Comic . . . . . deLaisade
301. Yacht Waltz . . . . . Dunmore	212. Why am I ever Watching . . . . . Barker
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## THE JOLLY SHRINERS

MARCH.

ARCHIE L. HAMILTON.

Tempo di Marcia.

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## The Need of More Education in Music.

The mistake made by writers in the daily press as to a musician often of an amusing character and form one of the strongest possible arguments for more general education in music and in musical terms by the general public. Even the best informed people in other matters are strangely ignorant of the most common things in the musical art. Many persons who would blush to confess their ignorance of the meaning of the Magna Charta, or the date of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, or facts in physiology and chemistry as sciences, will make mistakes about the art of music which are almost painful in ignorance and absurdities, the existence of which are entirely unknown to the writer or speaker of them.

The reporters on the press work are generally exceedingly careful to verify and make exact statements when writing of other sciences; but when recording musical matters no gibberish or ignorance is too coarse to be written of this beautiful art, and under the cover of a lot of wrongly applied technical terms what is supposed to be expert criticism is written for the press. It would seem that the writers thought their readers to be even more ignorant than themselves and that by a liberal sprinkling of musical terms of more or less value, they could impress the reader with the idea that they really had grand knowledge of the art itself.

These thoughts come to COMFORT by looking over an old paper and the eye being attracted by an account of the home-coming of Admiral Dewey, a couple of years ago. The article is a striking example of the nonsense which is commonly written anent musical events of any

kind, and is chiefly noticeable as being the Associated Press dispatch which was sent to all the daily papers throughout the country and was probably read by many millions of people, who little dreamed of the absurdities appearing in it. One of the finest descriptive press writers in the metropolis was responsible for it. Here is what he wrote in one part:

"As the Olympia came abreast of the Chicago the guard presented arms, the drums gave four ruffles, the trumpets four flourishes, and the band played 'Home, Sweet Home,' dwelling with swelling cadenza upon the minor bars. The officers at the waist raised their gold-bound beavers and the sailors cheered, etc."

It is almost kindness to say that from the musical standpoint the above is nonsense and almost idiotic. Let us look it over together and see if this is not so. In the first place "Home, Sweet Home" is written in the major key, and there are no minor bars in it. Then we have something about the cadenza. Any musical student will tell at a glance that there is no cadenza in the song. Even if there were, a child in music would know that it would be played by itself and not as an accompaniment to what the writer is pleased to call "minor bars." In fact, it seems most evident that in his desire to make a pretty sentence the writer simply sacrificed facts to pleasing sound, whether his writing made any sense or not.

It would have been as proper to have written that "Admiral Dewey stood gracefully upon his left head and his ears twinkled mischievously." Any reader would at once recognize the nonsense of such an expression and a writer guilty of such nonsense would lose his place, but about music it seems as if anything could be said with impunity, no matter how little sense there may be in the formation.

COMFORT has written the above because it believes the time has come to call attention to

a fact which is so obvious to all who have studied the art. The study of music, once confined to the favored few, is now almost as common as the public school system itself. The growing generation generally have from a rudimentary to a good education in music and know precisely what musical terms mean and how they should be used.

It is to be hoped that the day is soon at hand that will have attained the point that people will consider it essential to a liberal education to have a fair knowledge of the technical and scientific part of music. A point where one would be as ashamed to admit that he or she knew nothing of music, as the same person would be now to admit he or she knew nothing of history.

## How to Save Your Money.

The postal authorities of the country have recently made a rule which puts a new classification of postage-rates upon sheet music sent by the publishers. The new rate is considerably higher than what has been paid heretofore. Like all such taxes the advance indirectly comes from the purchasers' pocket, in that prices have to be raised to meet the new expense. Under the generous music offer made by COMFORT for months past, great quantities of sheet music has been sent to subscribers at practically cost of manufacture. The price was also based on the present postal rates which are to be changed at an early date. After the new rate is put in force to meet expenses it will be necessary to add enough to the price to meet the new postage, as we cannot afford to send this music at actual loss, as would be the case were we to continue present prices. Therefore we give notice that in a very

short time we shall raise the price made in the offer; so that every one interested in music should take advantage of the present offer while it is still available. Remember that there will be a sharp advance in a short time, but if you write at once the offer will still hold good as you find it in another column. You can save money by stocking up with a lot of this music before the higher prices come in. Be sure to write at once as we cannot tell how soon we shall have to add the new postage rates to the present prices, but we cannot extend time beyond September 10th.

## This Refers to You.

Goethe said that a man should read a little poetry, see a fine picture and hear a piece of good music every day of his life to cultivate the sense of beauty that God has planted in every human soul. No excuse can be given that a piece of good music cannot be had for every day in the year. Rich and poor alike can take advantage of COMFORT's music offer on another page, which gives you the best sheet music at practically cost of postage and mailing.

With the growth of musical culture in America the people demand a better class of music. The day is not far distant when we shall have music as distinctively American as there is now German or Italian.

The higher rate of postage on music will make the price in our offer a little higher soon; but the cost of sheet music, even with that disadvantage, will cost you less by a large sum than if you purchase at stores.





CONDUCTED BY AUNT SARAH.



and sweet marjoram. Anything, in fact, that gives a pleasant odor. Put blossoms and leaves into a jar having a close-fitting cover, in layers, alternately, with a sprinkling of salt. Use about one ounce salt to the pound. Leave in a cool, dark place for a month, stirring every day. Then add spices—cinnamon, cloves, orris root and dried orange and lemon peel. For each quart of dry material have ready a cup of alcohol. Put the materials into rose jars in layers, sprinkling each layer with alcohol. Cover and let stand, undisturbed, for a month, when it will be fully preserved, with a fragrant, spicy odor that will remain in good condition for years.

We give a suggestion for a novel punch bowl which will appeal to those who are looking for table decorations a little out of the ordinary.

Get a block of clear ice that will fit into a large dripping pan. The pan should have a hole in it, to which a tube has been soldered. This tube conducts the drippings to a pan under the table on which it rests.

With an ice pick and hot flat irons a hollow of right size may be shaped, and into this is

poured the punch, which is kept delightfully cool in its frigid bed. The pan should be decorated with ferns and flowers, so it will not be seen. If used on a dining table, an extra leaf of cheap wood should be obtained, and a hole made through which the tube can pass to a pan under the table, which should, of course, be emptied often.

A temperance drink that resembles champagne is compounded as follows: Take a good sized lemon, an ounce of ginger root, a pound and a half of white sugar, one ounce of tartaric acid, one gill of yeast, and two and a half gallons of water. Bruise the ginger, slice the lemon, pour boiling water over them, and when it has cooled to lukewarmness add the yeast and let it stand in the sun all day. In the evening put it into bottles and cork tight. It may be used in a couple of days.

We have been requested to give a recipe for Pumpnickle, which is made as follows:

Make a batter at night of one cup each of milk that has been heated to the scalding point and boiling water, two level teaspoons lard, one-third teaspoon sugar, one and one-half level teaspoons salt, one yeast cake dissolved in one-fourth cup warm water, and three cups of flour. In two or three hours the batter will be light; then stir in one tablespoon of caraway seed and rye meal until stiff enough to knead; let rise over night. Knead and shape into a round loaf; when risen to twice its original size bake one hour.

We have illustrated a few garnishes, this month, to show what can be done in that line with care and an eye to general attractiveness. We simply give the garnishes themselves. Of course each garnish is used according to the food served. Parsley is in universal use as a garnish, and is also used in connection with lemon, tomato and radishes—slices of lemon, with a star cut from a slice of pickled beet is a pretty garnish for fish, with touches of parsley at either end of the platter. Butterflies, as shown in the illustration are cut from lemon, also the baskets, in which is usually served tartar sauce for smelts or scallops. Radishes are cut so that the thin strips roll back and look like a rose bud. These should be placed in ice water for two or three hours before using, after being cut, as is curled celery. Potato straws, or julienne potato, makes a pretty garnish around the edge of a large platter on which a whole fish is served. Pyramids are made of small potato balls with a sprig of parsley on top. These should be served on a platter by themselves, or individually, so that there would be no danger of breaking the pyramid.

Eggs are used for garnishes, particularly with salads. Hard boiled, with the whites cut in rings and the yolks put through the ricer, or with the whites cut in long petals and ar-

ranged like a daisy, and the yolks used for the center.

Whipped cream is used largely for desserts. It may be colored, after being whipped, with a few drops of coloring liquid used for cooking purposes and so add materially to the appearance of even a dish of sliced fruit, or a plain jelly.

Every one is troubled more or less with having the cream sour, in the very hot months. What to do with sour cream is a problem to some, so we give a few recipes wherein it may be used with good effect.

#### SOUR CREAM BISCUITS.

One cup flour, measured before sifting. One-half cup sour cream; one-fourth cup sweet milk; one level teaspoon baking powder; one-half teaspoon soda; one-third teaspoon salt. Sift the flour, baking powder, and salt into a mixing bowl. Add cream in which the soda has been dissolved, and then the milk. Mix smooth and roll out, using as little flour as possible. Roll one inch thick, cut out and bake about ten minutes in a hot oven.

#### SOUR CREAM GINGERBREAD.

Three-fourths cup sour cream; one-half cup molasses; one-half cup granulated sugar; two cups flour; two eggs; heaping teaspoon soda; one tablespoon ginger; dessert spoonful cinnamon. Beat together the eggs, sugar and molasses. Add half the cream and dissolve the soda in the remainder, after which beat all lightly together. Sift in the flour, ginger and cinnamon and stir until smooth. Bake about half an hour in a moderate oven.

#### SOUR CREAM SPICE CAKE.

Beat the yolks of two eggs and one whole egg, add three-fourths cup white sugar and then three-fourths cup sour cream in which one-half teaspoon soda has been dissolved. Sift into the mixture two cups flour and one teaspoon baking powder. Add one teaspoon each of clove, cinnamon and mace. Stir until smooth and bake in three layers in a moderately hot oven.

#### FILLING.

Add to the whites of two eggs one-quarter cup of sweet cream or rich milk, and stir into the mixture confectioner's sugar, until an icing has been obtained of such consistency that a little spread upon the cake and scored with a knife-blade will leave a perfectly defined parting. Flavor with vanilla and spread between layers and upon top of cake when cold. Score top frosting with knife-blade, marking pieces of the proper size for serving.

The recipe given above makes a loaf cake, omitting the spices and adding either a cup of seeded raisins, or broken pecan meats, which should be thrown loosely into the sifted flour, and the batter then thoroughly beaten before it is disposed in the pans. It will make two brick-shaped loaves, which, when cold, should be spread with confectioner's icing. Allow a cupful of confectioner's sugar to each loaf, adding hot water, a little at a time, until the icing will spread nicely.

#### SOUR CREAM NUT CAKE.

Two eggs; one cup of granulated sugar; one-half cup of rich sour cream; two cups of flour measured before sifting; one-half teaspoonful of baking powder; a pinch of salt.

Beat the eggs till whites and yolks are well blended, and add sugar. Dissolve the soda in cream, stirring it then into the eggs and sugar. Sift into the mixture the flour, baking powder and salt, and beat well together. Bake in three layer cake tins.

#### FILLING.

One cup of pecan or walnut meats run through meat-chopper, or crushed with rolling-pin on bread-board; one small egg; three-fourths cup of confectioner's sugar; one-half cup of sour cream; a few drops of vanilla.

Beat the egg well, white and yolk together; add the sugar and nut meats, and last of all the cream and vanilla, stirring it then only enough to mix all together. Spread between the layers and over the top of cake when cold.

#### DISCOVERED BY A WOMAN.

I have discovered a positive cure for all female diseases and the piles. It never fails to cure any of the various diseases peculiar to women, such as leucorrhoea, displacements, ulceration, granulation, etc., or the piles from any cause or in either sex. I will gladly mail a box of this wonderful medicine free to every sufferer. Mrs. C. B. MILLER, Box 106, Kokomo, Ind.

**\$20 A WEEK** And Expenses for men and women with rig to introduce our Poultry Remedy. Excelsior Mfg. Co., Parsons, Kans.

**LADIES** to do piece work at their homes. We furnish all material and pay from \$7 to \$12 weekly. Experience unnecessary. Send stamped envelope to ROYAL CO., Desk C., 34 Monroe St., Chicago.

**\$5.00 SHAVING SET FREE**



For selling only six of our Electric Porous Plasters. We want to prove there is a sure prevention and cure for Lame Back, La Grippe, Coughs, Colds, Pneumonia, Rheumatism, etc., and will send you six of our 25c Plasters which you are to sell and return the money (\$1.50) to us and we will send you, all charges paid, the elegant Shaving Set packed in a case eight inches long, six inches wide and five inches high. The combination consists of 1 Royal Swedish Razor, single value, \$3.00; 1 Genuine, Horsehide, Double, Reversible, Canvas-back, Nickel-hung, Ebonized handle Razor Strip, value \$1.00; 1 Real China Shaving Mug; 1 Cake Star Shaving Soap; 1 Best Bristle, large handle Lather Brush; 1 Cake Perfumed Lump Magnesia; 1 Stick rich perfumed Cosmétique, making a grand \$5.00 combination. Every man should have an outfit in the house for emergency's use. Every Woman should see to it that either her Father, her Husband, her Brother or her Sweetheart has one of these outfits. They make the best presents one can give to a gentleman.

Don't wait but send to-day for Plasters. One agent sold the six in six minutes. Address THE G. O. PLASTER CO., Box 1229, Augusta, Maine.

## Science and the Baby.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



THIS is the age of the scientifically reared infant, and many a baby is carried successfully through the critical period nowadays which under conditions that existed only a few years ago would have succumbed. Milk is now "modified" in accordance with doctors' prescriptions to suit the requirements of any child, the various combinations of sugar, fat, and proteids (cheese-stuff) running up actually into the tens of thousands, and each one representing a special arrangement of percentages of those ingredients. In every instance the effort is to alter the cow's milk in such a way as to imitate mother's milk, but one youngster is apt to digest to advantage more sugar or less fat than another, and such points as these have to be carefully studied by the family physician.

It is easy enough to modify cow's milk in such a manner as to counterfeit mother's milk with absolute accuracy—to reproduce it so perfectly, in fact, that no chemical analysis will show any difference. Nevertheless, it is admitted that the imitation is not quite the same thing as the original, not equal to it in point of healthfulness and digestibility. Only mother's milk is an ideal food for the baby; no matter how the milk of the cow is altered, it is still cow's milk, and the proteids do not behave so well as those of mother's milk when taken into the infantile stomach.

Establishments that make a business of modifying milk keep notes of every day's feeding for every infant served. Thus, years afterward, when Baby A has grown up and is preparing for college, the physician can turn to the records and find out exactly what the child was fed on. If Baby A has turned out an exceptionally fine and healthy boy, the information may be of value for use in other cases. On the other hand, if he has proved puny, the doctor, observing the fact, may say to himself, "What did I feed that youngster on?" A ready reference tells him, and may suggest to him an avoidance of that particular prescription.

The modifying of milk consists in changing the proportions of the three principal constituents—sugar, fat, and proteids. It signifies taking the milk to pieces and rearranging those ingredients in the percentages required to suit any case. The fat is separated by letting the cream rise and skimming it off, the fluid left behind containing no fat, but only sugar and cheese-stuff. An excess of albumen, which is a part of the cheese-stuff (proteids) is got rid of with the aid of heat, being precipitated and strained away, while the percentage of sugar is lessened by dilution. In such ways, using both chemical and mechanical means milks of infinite variety are obtained. As may well be imagined, they are of the utmost value in the feeding of invalids.

IN 1834 there were no orphanages in England. In that year Mr. Muller began his work of looking up and caring for orphan children, and from that time until 1897 nine thousand eight hundred and forty-four orphans had been sheltered in his homes and passed from them to other homes provided by his care. These children are never lost sight of by him and his helpers, but are watched and guarded as long as they need such oversight.

Orange Lily cures Leucorrhoea, Ulceration, Displacement, Painful Periods. For a free trial address, Mrs. H. C. Fretter, Detroit, Mich.



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The fashion in Hammocks is ever changing. This year we offer you something entirely different than the usual premium hammock, a fine quality, fancy pattern, fish-net cotton, same as is used by fishermen; something substantial and is tested to hold 300 pounds, dead weight, is 10 feet long, over 32 inches wide. Highly colored in red, black, yellow and white. Each Hammock has a pocket in the end of the net for a concave stretched and inviting appearance.

For hot summer days you can have nothing that will afford more pleasure than a quiet hour in a hammock in some shady nook. Now to every one who will get up a club of 3 subscribers for this paper at the special trial price, 25 cents per year each in advance, we will send one of these Hammocks FREE, with paying all express and mailing charges. By showing a copy of this great paper to your neighbors, friends and acquaintances, you can easily get up a club in one evening; for with its many improvements and new original copyrighted departments, now needs only to be seen to be appreciated. Remember, each subscriber gets our charming monthly magazine every month for a year and the Hammock goes to you as a reward for your effort.

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## CURED BY A MIGHTY POWER

All Chronic Diseases Cured By a System of Treatment Originated By Dr. J. M. Peebles, The Grand Old Man of Battle Creek.

Dr. Peebles, the grand old man of Battle Creek, in whose brain originated a psychic treatment, has so perfected his method that it has revolutionized the art of healing, and it can almost be said that the cure is no longer a matter of hope, but of fact. This system of treatment has brought thousands back to health after they had been pronounced hopelessly ill by the very best local physicians. His cures have been proclaimed phenomenal by the many thousands who have had a chance to watch the near neighbor, friend or relative pronounced at death's door by the local doctor, brought back to perfect manhood and womanhood by this eminent doctor and his associates.



DR. J. M. PEEBLES.

These wonderful cures are brought about through a system of treatment originated by Dr. Peebles himself, which is a combination of mild magnetic remedies and a grand science, making the strongest healing combination known. This method has been so perfected by the doctor and his associates that anyone may use it in the privacy of their own home without detection from business or the knowledge of anyone. Mrs. J. W. Anderson, of St. Johns, Wash., suffered for years with pain in the ovaries and uterine weakness; she was entirely cured by this treatment. Mrs. C. Harris, of Marionville, Pa., says she cannot express too much gratitude for the results received from Dr. Peebles' treatment for falling of the womb and general exhaustion. George H. Weeks, of Cleveland, Ohio, sends heartfelt thanks for restoring him to health after suffering from nervous prostration and insomnia for years; he says he now enjoys excellent health and restful sleep every night. G. D. Young, of Winner, Ore., says: "I bore about my body the piteous spectacle of disease and death stared me in the face. I now thank heaven I am a well man, and I owe this great victory over disease to Dr. Peebles and his corps of assistants." Mrs. Bell B. Bond, of Dunkirk, N. Y., who was cured of asthma, dropsy, heart trouble and female weakness in a very few months, writes that she recommends Dr. Peebles' treatment to all her sick friends and relatives—in fact to all suffering humanity. No matter what the disease, or how despondent you may feel because you have been told there is no help for you, there still is hope. Hundreds of women suffering from irregularities peculiar to their sex, have been cured by Dr. Peebles' methods after being told there was no help for them unless an operation was resorted to. The same may be said of men who are debilitated from excesses and early indiscretions—in fact, any and all diseases yield to this wonderful system. If you are unfamiliar with this treatment, which is annually curing thousands of those pronounced incurable, do not fail to send at once for full information concerning this grand treatment. It costs nothing whatever, and the information gained will be worth much to you. If you act on it and are discouraged, do not fail to have the doctors diagnose your case and let you your exact condition. Just write them a plain, truthful letter about your case; they will confidentially consider the same, send you at once a complete diagnosis of your condition, and also literature on this grand system of treatment, together with Dr. Peebles' essay, "The Psychic Science in the Cure of Disease." All this is sent absolutely free. Write today. Address: Dr. Peebles' Institute of Health, Dept. J., Battle Creek, Mich.



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**EDITOR'S NOTE.** The following rules govern the publication of matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular subscribers to *Comfort*, and every contribution must bear the writer's name and post-office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest, will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them, and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may reach six hundred and fifty words. Contributors must write on one side of the paper only.

#### \$10 CASH PRIZES \$10.

The following cash prizes will be paid monthly:

1st.	For the best original letter	\$3.00
2nd.	" " second best original letter	2.50
3rd.	" " third " " "	2.00
4th.	" " fourth " " "	1.50
5th.	" " fifth " " "	1.00

Competitors for these monthly cash prizes must comply with all the above rules, and in addition must bring at least two new Cousins into the *Comfort* circle; that is, they must send two new subscribers with each letter, together with 50 cents for the yearly subscriptions.

These cash prizes will be announced monthly in this department.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this Prize Offer.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of *Comfort*, Augusta, Maine.

A. Tiffany,	\$3.00
Sara F. Grogan,	2.50
Charlie F. McGee,	2.00
Mrs. J. O. Adams,	1.50
Arthur E. McPherson,	1.00

#### EAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS:

Old Samuel Johnson advises us to—

"Catch, then, oh catch the transient hour;  
Improve each moment as it flies!  
Life's a short summer, man a flower;  
He dies—alas! how soon he dies!"

while Shakespeare tells us that—

"Thy eternal summer shall not fade,"

and so, having set you to thinking, Aunt Minerva will proceed to open her monthly budget of letters.

Our first letter this month, on Venice, is very interesting and I am sorry that its length obliges me to somewhat abridge it in giving it to my readers, but I must introduce "The White Swan of cities," as Longfellow calls it, at

"The little station, where you step from the wave-washed steps into a gondola and are taken to your hotel. The gondolier at once becomes your



CHARACTERISTIC CANAL.

very good friend, a part of your daily life, your shadow, your counselor and guide, and you usually find him an excellent fellow. The gondolas multiply as you float down the lagoon, and every gondola and every gondolier at a distance looks exactly like every other. It is quite probable that the hotel which you have chosen was formerly a palace, and many of the rooms are still kept up in their glory and rich decorations. It is wonderful how these people restore and renew the old, keeping it always in harmony with the new; for electric lights, steam heat, hydraulic lifts and American speaking porters are usually to be found in all these old palace-hotels.

"To the tourist Venice is a vast museum, with its harmonies of marble and mosaic, softened and mellowed by the ever-dazzling silver presence of the sea. As you float down the stream, listening to the soft music from the various gondolas about you, the gondolier points with pride to this high, narrow stone building, with its projecting balconies hanging over the water, saying 'This was the home of Desdemona,' and farther on 'Robert Browning died here,' and 'in that palace Lord Byron lived and wrote,' and 'here Wagner and George Eliot lived,' and so on as we pass. Suddenly, as the gondola gives a swerve we pass under a bridge, and the gondoliers' cry, carried over the water, arouses you from your reveries.

"The city has as many changing sights as the sea,



OTHELLO'S HOUSE.

for soon you pass a shabby facade of gothic windows and balconies, where dirty clothes wave in the soft wind, and under a cavernous doorway you

catch sights of the misery down the slimy water steps.

The voice of the gondolier seems to be the sound of Venice, for there are no animals to be seen and there is no rumbling of wheels or sound of hoofs; only the sound of music and the voice of the gondolier over the still water.

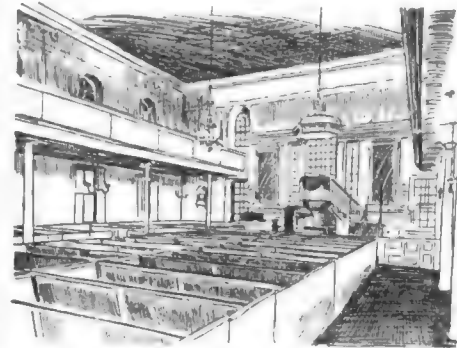
"I might spend many pages in describing to you the palace of the Doges, the Bridge of Sighs, and the Square of San Marco, with its celebrated pigeons circling about, but you know it all and I forbear. The cathedrals are rich in pictures and masterpieces. It is here that we find, in the city of his adoption, the best of Titian's works, also those of Tintoretto, the Veronese and Bellini. You pause at the monuments to Titian and Canova, and marvel that time has dealt so lightly with these beautiful works of arts.

"You cross the Rialto bridge, built by Antonio De Ponto in 1588, and the brilliancy of the shops allures you, and the Venetian Glass Works brings you back to the achievements of the present. You linger at the wide mouth of the Grand Canal, and dream you are floating to the gate of the Ducal palace, and you go back again to St. Mark's and find each day a fresh beauty. Painters say that it is a 'Treasury of bits in its gray bloom of honorable age.'"

A. TIFFANY, Atlantic, Iowa.

We are all fond of foreign travel, but at the end of our trips we gladly return to our "ain country," and feel, deep down in our hearts, that "there is no place like home," and so I know you will welcome the following letter on dear little old Christ Church in Alexandria, Va. I can assure you, from my own personal knowledge, that it is every word true.

"In Alexandria, Va., there is still to be seen the church in which George Washington worshipped, preserved in all its original simplicity and beauty.



INTERIOR OF CHRIST CHURCH

The tablets on either side of the pulpit, one containing the Lord's prayer and the creed, the other the ten commandments, remain the same; also the pulpit, chair, communion table and the baptismal font; while the chandelier presented to the church by Washington still hangs from the center of the ceiling.

"The pew in which he sat has never been altered. On its door is his plate, engraved 'George Washington.' This spot is regarded with reverence and adoration by the entire congregation and city, as well as by the sight-seers to Washington, D. C., who never fail to include this picturesque old church in their visit. The pews were all originally built like this one—square, with seats around three sides, enclosed by a wall so high that one sitting within the pew can scarcely see the heads of those sitting without; but in 1816, owing to the increased membership of the church, it became necessary to change the form of the pews to single ones, all facing the pulpit.

"Across the aisle from Washington's pew, in the center of the church, is the one occupied, during his life, by Robert E. Lee, the grand and heroic leader of the Rebel war, which, with his plate upon its door, shares the attention paid to Washington's pew. In the vestry room are numerous relics used in Washington's time, such as the old Bible, contribution box, etc.

"It is said that George Washington drove to this church every Sunday in the old family coach which is on exhibition in the carriage house at Mt Vernon.

"Lawrence Washington, like his illustrious ancestor, is now a faithful attendant upon the services in this church, and when asked if he had any children the sexton replied, 'he only fetches eleven.' So it appears this great name is not soon to die out, and if Lawrence is not the Father of his Country, he is the father of quite a flourishing family.

"This church was built in 1767. The ceiling is low and the windows high from the floor and small. The pews, gallery and ceiling are painted white. But for the sweet-toned organ with its well-trained choir perched up in the organ loft, there is no modern invasion.

"Surrounding this quaint old brick church, reaching to its very vine clad walls, is an old fashioned 'grave yard,' studded with tombstones, upon which are written many curious epitaphs dating from 1767 to the beginning of the nineteenth century. This is one: 'Rebecca Comfort of John Harper,' which seems a more respectful way of speaking of a man's wife, than calling her a 'relict,' which is done in these modern times.



EXTERIOR OF CHRIST CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA.

Here is another:

"Afflictions sore long time he bore,  
Physicians was in vain;  
Till God was pleased death should him seize  
And ease him of his pain."

This one, dated 1799, strikes every one with peculiar warning:

"All you that come my grave to see  
Prepare yourselves to follow me.  
Repent and turn to God in time  
You may be taken in your prime."

SARA F. GROGAN, Washington, D. C.

Our next letter is quite a novelty in these pages, as you will realize as you read it.

"Do not imagine because I am an Indian boy, that I paint my face, garb myself in beads and feathers, drink fire-water and scalp my enemies. Oh no! we are now enjoying the benefits of civilization, dressed-up pale-face style, and in place of wielding the tomahawk and scalping-knife we now wield the more prosaic and useful hoe of the white man; and instead of guiding the feathered shaft on its flight to some unsuspecting quarry, we now guide two steers or a pair of long-eared mules attached to a number fifteen plow.

"Our tribal courts have been abolished by the provisions of the Curtis bill, and the last vestige of authority passed from the shattered and weakened grasp of the Red Man into that of his white brother. Manners and customs rendered sacred to us by their antiquity are fast growing obsolete, and

Ichabod! the glory has departed from my people.

"No longer can the dusky brave smoke his pipe in the cool shade of the forest, or loit at ease on the grassy bank of some pellucid stream, while his patient squaw toils, sweats and drudges in the truck-patch in order to provide a support for him and the papposes. His squaw now apes the manners and customs of her pale-face sisters, and the wigwam with food and other necessities.

"The consequences may be imagined but not described. The Indian brave is fast losing his falcon bearing, and his eagle-eye is growing dim and lusterless, and the sunshine has gone out of his life forever. He imagines that the wise and learned men of the long ago, who have been capering in the war dances of 'The Happy Hunting-grounds' for thousands and thousands of moons, look down with scorn upon him, and the iron enters his soul and he refuses to be comforted.

"This portion of the territory, however, is settled almost entirely by full-bloods, and civilization has not wholly subdued us. We still preserve many of the manners and customs of our forefathers intact: still our 'Feast of the Green Corn' is sacred to us, and our eagle-tail and stomp dances kept up. We invoke the assistance of the Great Spirit at our fish poisonings, and believe He looks down, well pleased, upon his Red children during the annual camp-meeting.

"Your nephew in Red, Ochalah, or, as the white people call me,

CHARLIE F. MCGEE, Bragg, Ind. Ter.

We all love to read of daring deeds, and courage in the cause of a suffering fellow-being is worthy of all admiration.

"In these brilliant days of our Republic, when the nation's grateful admiration for the noble Dewey, the hero of Manila, has been everywhere, poured forth, the mind naturally reverts to other acts of heroism, parallel in courageous intent if not in actual result. Among these stands conspicuous, the brave action of Commodore Ingraham, U. S. N., whose prompt determination in behalf of Hoszta, the Hungarian exile, in 1853, won him unbounded admiration both at home and abroad, while it greatly increased the respect of foreign nations for the flag of our country.

"Let us recall the facts. Martin Hoszta, a native of Hungary, while struggling with fellow patriots in the unsuccessful effort to free his country from the Austrian yoke, was compelled to flee, and, escaping to America, became in time a naturalized citizen of the United States. Years later, in 1853, Hoszta returned to the Old World to engage in business at Smyrna, on the Mediterranean, deeming his American papers sufficiently protective. He was recognized, however, and seized by order of the Austrian Consul General, and as a rebel refugee was imprisoned on an Austrian war vessel, of which there were at the time two in the harbor of Smyrna.

"Notwithstanding the odds against him, Commodore Ingraham demanded the immediate release of Hoszta, as an American citizen, and upon the refusal of the Austrian, Ingraham notified him that the American sloop, *St. Louis*, would immediately be cleared for action, and the Austrians fired upon if within a certain time, Hoszta was not delivered up. Thus warned, the Austrians yielded, and the Hungarian was given in charge of the French Consul, to be held by a neutral power until the difficulty between Austria and the United States could be settled. This being finally accomplished, Hoszta returned to his adopted home.

"For his gallant conduct in thus maintaining the honor of his country Commodore Ingraham received from the U. S. Government a handsome gold medal, and from the citizens of New York a smaller medal; the Germans presented him with a sword; from France came a handsome chronometer; from Italy an elegant brace of pistols; and from some unknown admirer a silver goblet—well deserved marks of the world's appreciation of a hero. Some of these valued gifts were lost during the Civil War, but others are still held as precious relics by the descendants of the gallant Commodore in his native city of Charleston, South Carolina.

MRS. J. O. ADAMS, Beaufort, S. C.

There is one thing of which we poor mortals never tire, and that is of beholding the wonders of nature; and here is a description of a marvellous spring which I know you will all find enjoyable.

"One of the most wonderful springs of water in the whole United States is that which gushes out



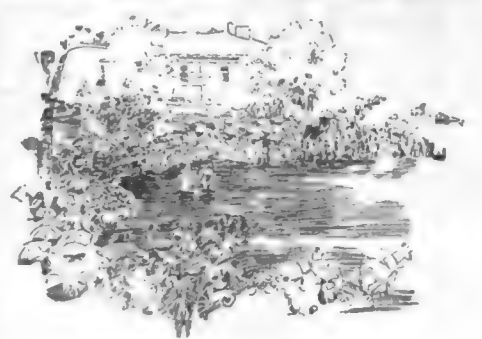
HUNTSVILLE SPRING.

of a cliff of rock in the very middle of Huntsville, Ala. It is said that many years ago, long before white men came to this country, a tribe of Indians who had been driven out from their own country in the west, wandered eastward, looking for a place where they could live. Finally, after many weeks of wandering, they came to this spring and the chief, thrusting his spear down into the soil, cried 'Ah-la-bah-mi!' which meant, in their tongue, 'Here we rest!' It has also been said that this same spring is the one of which Ponce de Leon had heard as a fountain of perpetual youth.

The first white man who came here found a spring gushing out at the base of a cliff fifty feet high. It flows twenty-five million gallons of water every twenty-four hours, and it is water which is beautifully sweet and pure. The outlet of the spring has now been dammed up and the water is used for the domestic and fire purposes of the city. A building has been erected in which a powerful steam pump forces the water wherever needed. The city was offered \$250,000 not long ago for this water privilege, but very wisely refused it.

"At the place where the spring gushes from the rock a fountain has been arranged so that the water rises in a beautiful cluster of jets among the trees of a little park. Just on the rock above is the building used by the National bank of the city, a bank which was founded long before the war. Its

vaults are constructed in the solid rock above the spring, and are planned so ingeniously that it is



A BAPTIZING AT HUNTSVILLE SPRING.

difficult to tell where the rock leaves off and the bank buildings begin.

"In spite of all the water which is needed for the use of the city the spring is so large that a small river of surplus water flows from it. Just below the pumping station this spreads out into a shallow, broad pond into which the people drive their horses and mules to drink, and to which, on Sundays, the colored people come for their great 'baptizin' ceremonies, one of which is shown in the picture which accompanies this article.

ARTHUR E. MCPHERSON, Huntsville, Ala.

I have received from a cousin in Coxsackie, N. Y., a letter upon West Point and its surroundings which I am sorry not to be able to use, but for which I thank the writer.

Here is still another letter on a curious spring.

"Waconda, or Great Spirit Spring, is located on a bend of the river in the valley of the Solomon in Mitchell county, Kansas, and is one of the most remarkable mineral springs in the world. It was once a favorite haunt of the Indians, one of their great trails passing directly by it, and it is said that they first learned of its existence by the fall of a meteorite which buried itself in the earth of the prairie close to the mound. They cast many strange offerings into the spring, considering it sacred and a manifestation of the Great Spirit's healing powers. When the spring was cleaned out numbers of these relics, such as arrows, spears, flint-lock muskets, bead necklaces, and other varieties of ornaments, were found in it. General Fremont is supposed to have visited the spring on one of his exploring expeditions, as one of his lieutenants is buried at Clifton, near by, and a monument erected over his grave.

"The mound which contains the spring is nearly circular, and is composed of a hard, grayish rock, quite unlike any other known rock. It is about thirty feet in height, one side sloping so that carriages can be driven up the incline, while the other sides are precipitous cliffs. A rocky basin, fifty feet in diameter, contains the spring. This has been surrounded by a stone coping surmounted by an iron fence. The bed of the spring is of fine, black sand, the depth of which has never been ascertained, so deep is it. The water has a peculiar saline taste, although as clear as crystal.

"It is believed to have great medicinal value, and a sanitarium has been erected near by for the accommodation of guests and invalids.

"A curious fact about this spring is that after the earthquake at Charleston, S. C., the water sank about three feet and did not recover its ordinary level for several months.

ELLA TATUM, Barnard, Kansas.

And now our summer of 1901 is near its end. I hope it has been a pleasant one for you all, and that its good effects and happy memories will go with you through all the coming winter.

AUNT MINERVA.

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## WE GIVE THIS WATCH FOR A CLUB OF 4.



Thirty Minutes is a short time, but many have earned one of these watches in less time than that. It is one of the very best watches for time ever offered to our readers at no matter what the price asked for it. We know, of course, there are watches that cost more money, because they are in gold or silver cases, but they will not keep any better time, simply because they cannot. This watch keeps not perfect time, we never saw the watch that did, but it keeps as near perfect time as watches usually do. We have such faith in this watch as a timekeeper that we send with every one a guarantee just as binding as that given with any watch, no matter what make. We are willing to give you this watch if you will do us a slight service, which you can easily do in an hour. We wish to increase our subscription list, and we want the assistance of every reader of this paper to that end. We do not want you to do it for nothing, we will reward you for it. You can easily secure this valuable watch if you get four subscribers to this paper, at our special subscription price of 25 cents a year each. Do this, sending us \$1.00, with the names of four subscribers to this paper, and we will send you our paper to each subscriber for one year, and we will send you the watch to reward you for your efforts in our behalf. Start out now and see what you can do. Remember we guarantee every watch. If you get five subscribers and send us \$1.25 for the same we will also send you a nice chain. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.









**THE GIANT OXIE CO., Box 1120, Augusta, Maine.**





## TALKS WITH GIRLS.

CONDUCTED BY  
COUSIN MARION.

The last month of Summer, my dears, and I am pretty sure you are looking forward gratefully to the cooler days of Autumn. Doesn't the time fly? Only the other day, it seems, that we hailed the coming of Summer in the month of roses, and now we are close to the season of the fading flowers. Heigho, if we could only stop it. However, there is work to do, not whining over what cannot be helped.

The first is Billie D. of Providence, R. I. with several questions. (1) The young man should not call you by your first name under any circumstances if you do not want him to. Politely request him not to do it. (2) It is very gracious of a lady to ask men to call. (3) There is no significance in the man's wearing the girl's ring unless the two understand it as signifying something.

Mabel and Gretchen, Butler, Pa.—There are dozens of games that may be played at parties where there are boys. Indeed, all parlor games except "kissing games" are quite permissible. (2) There is no definite length of time that the engagement ring should be worn, but it should not be worn too long. Very long engagements are all right, but they should not be announced by ring or otherwise. (3) Don't go to the store to talk to a young man except on business. (4) Opera is not intended for boys and girls. That is to say "the opera."

Hayside Twins, Maple Grove, Minn.—It is not right for a teacher to flirt with his pupils. What is more, it is wrong. (2) Have you never heard the old adage: "If you expect to rate as gentlemen you must not expectorate in the presence of ladies?" However, it is not quite so bad as that. (3) In my opinion it is absolutely wrong to play baseball on Sunday, but a good many millions of people do not think as I do. I think I am safe though in saying that not a great many ladies go to see Sunday games of ball.

Willia, Ripley, Miss.—Nobody, my dear, has ever yet found out just why "young gentlemen love young ladies." The Lord only knows. He made them that way. (2) Don't have your picture taken with a man except in a picnic group or something of that sort. (3) Ask him to call; it promotes good feeling. (4) High collars are still popular.

Thelma, Caro, Mich.—Quite proper to give the young man a birthday present. (2) Why should you let him wear your ring? (3) Better go to a regular glove cleaner with white gloves. (4) Dancing in moderation is all right. (5) No.

Brown Eyes, Chicago, Ill.—Yes. (2) Let him know they are not agreeable. (3) Depends upon how well he is known. (4) Suit yourself about that. (5) Don't think of him at all. (6) Give it up. (7) Let him go to the other girl. P. S. You ask too many questions.

Topsy, Leoti, Kan.—You had a personal right, I think, to destroy the photograph of yourself belonging to some one else, but hardly a legal right. Whatever the photograph looked like, it was the property of the other person.

Maryolaine, Jackson, Mich.—I think you would not run a great risk in marrying the young man.

Teacher, Bridgeport, Tenn.—Ask the publisher of the algebra. Inclose postage for reply.

Triplet, Clarendon, Tenn.—Unless there is special occasion for it, men do not now offer their arms to ladies with whom they walk. (2) Fifteen year old girls should wear their hair as most becomes them. (3) Simply accept his company and thank him. (4) Out the acquaintance of the "two-faced girl". (5) Socially, girls of fifteen are not recognized except as children. They don't go calling and they don't have cards.

Maud Hutt, Groverville, Fla.—I have not space to tell you what you ask about the flag. Ask your teacher to tell you who Betsy Ross was.

Mignonette, Jackson, Mich.—Don't love the man sufficiently well to overlook his faults, but love him in spite of his faults.

Sunflower, Friend, Kan.—When you gave him the "mitten," you should have given him back all the presents he gave you.

C. and L., Clearfield, Pa.—If you are tall and do not weigh over 170 you had better be careful how you attempt to reduce your weight. Consult a physician. (2) The man may ask the girl's age, but she doesn't have to answer. (3) Do not speak or write to men whom you do not know, of course.

Attentive Reader, Max, S. C.—See answer (2) to Triplet, above. (2) Let the young man walk to the church door with you, even if he did not come the rest of the way.

Alberta and Jacquiline, Sprague, Wash.—Drop the young men rather than the church. But can't you have religion and "mental science" at the same time? (2) A nice girl should feel offended at such remarks from a man waiting with her. (3) Scuffling with a young man is quite unladylike. (4) Quite so.

Unhappy Grace, New Berlin, Ill.—Why in the name of common sense do you love a man who tells you he doesn't care for you, and treats you like a rag? Have some spirit about you and throw him over the fence.

Sue, Kilgore, Ky.—"Et omnes amant" is not French, but Latin. It means "and, omnes means 'all,' and amant means 'they love.'" (2) That you love dancing and flirtation and music is no sign why you should not become a good trained nurse, but do not undertake it until you know what is before you, because it is very hard work. There are training schools for nurses in every large city. Ask your doctor about the Cincinnati schools, or write to Superintendent City Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio, inclosing postage. (3) Why did you write to the boys?

Gypsy, Lyons, Ind.—A woman of twenty-one who does not know which one of three men she loves, doesn't love any of them, and oughtn't to be anybody's wife.

Unsigned, Trout Lake, Texas.—If I could answer satisfactorily, as you ask me to do, all your health questions, I would be the richest woman in the United States and a lot of doctors would be out of a job.

Etheland, Meadville, Pa.—Dear me, dear me, you couldn't suffer more than you are suffering even if you married the worst kind of a man. Since the one your parents object to is all right except his poverty, marry him, and be happy. The parents will get over it.

Undecided, Constableville, N. Y.—That work is best for you for which you are best fitted by education, temperament and physical strength to undertake. Choose the one that seems to be most attractive to you.

Vera, Alton, Pa.—Let the brotherly love continue, but within bounds. And do not encourage it.

Babes, Kenoma, Mo.—Ask half as many questions. There, my dears, we have come to the end of our August talk, and I feel as if I had been sitting in the midst of a company of you and we had been having just the loveliest time. May the good Lord keep you till we come together again. By by.  
COUSIN MARION.

## Santa Catalina.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



IN all its 1000 miles of sea coast, California offers no more attractive sport to anglers as well as for mere seekers after beautiful scenery than Santa Catalina Island.

This gem of the Pacific is situated about 20 miles off the coast, near Los Angeles. Its climate is like the California climate in general, delightful in the extreme. The weather is quite mild even during the winter months, and the island is a favorite resort for tourists. The scenery is beautiful—semi-tropical trees, mountain and ravine combine with ocean to make the island an ideal place. The forests are stocked with game, while in the waters around the island is to be had some of the finest game fishing in the country.

The black sea bass as it is called is not unlike the ordinary fresh-water variety in appearance, though there is a decided difference in size, as the Californian sea-bass has been known to attain a length of seven feet, and a weight of five hundred pounds. Yet these monsters have frequently been taken with rod and reel, provided the fisherman has enough skill and patience. Frequently, however, it happens that the angler finds one of these big fellows more than a match for his tackle, and is obliged to resort to the surer but perhaps not so picturesque hand line.

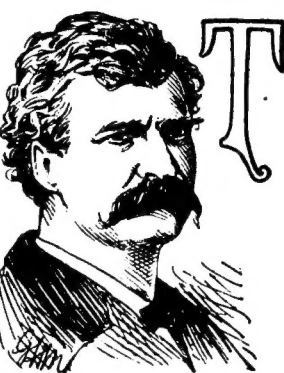
Another fish that furnishes great sport is the yellowtail, a beautiful specimen with its back a rich shade of blue, shading to a silvery white on the under parts, and the fins and tail the golden yellow color that gives the fish its name.

The yellow tail is very gamy and quite large—it having been known to reach a weight of eighty pounds, though this is unusual, from thirty to sixty pounds weight being considered a large fish, while most anglers find that a ten pound yellow tail can keep him extremely busy for quite a while.

The banacuda is another game fish that gives the anglers a good deal of sport, while small rock bass, bonits, and white fish all help to keep him in good spirits. But perhaps the king of all game fish is the tuna, which attains a weight of two-hundred and fifty pounds. It surpasses even the Florida tarpon, in the strength of its rushes—and leaps sometimes ten or twelve feet out of the water when hooked. It has even been known to leap clear over the boat in one of its rushes. The presence of the tuna is known by the appearance of schools of little fish jumping out of the water to escape their pursuer. A few tuna are taken on hand lines, but it is said to be impossible to capture one with rod and reel. The experiment has been tried times without number but always to the discomfiture of the angler and the triumph of King Tuna.

## America's Greatest Humorist.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



THE return of Mark Twain to his native land after an absence of a number of years has occasioned much dinner giving and banqueting complimentary to this genial humorist. He has been wine and dined until he has been almost compelled to plead mercy for his digestive organs.

The career of Samuel L.

Clemens, "Mark Twain," has been that of a poor boy in a little Missouri town rising by his own efforts to the distinction of being one of the most distinguished and one of the wealthiest literary men of the day. It is true that Mark Twain is not as rich as he once was, but he is rich enough to have refused an offer of fifty thousand dollars for one hundred lectures. He has paid eighty thousand dollars of the debts of honor he felt that he ought to pay when the firm of C. L. Webster and Co., of which he was a member, failed.

Samuel L. Clemens was born in the little town of Florida, Missouri, on the thirtieth day of November in the year 1835 so that he is now sixty-five years of age. When young Clemens was but eighteen years of age he was apprenticed to a printer and he worked at the case in different parts of the west and east. In 1855 he took a trip down the Mississippi and became so fascinated with river steamboat life that he learned to be a pilot and he followed this calling for a short time. Then he caught the moping fever and went out to Nevada where he later embarked in journalism as head editor of *The Virginia City Enterprise*. It was during the three years that he was editor of the *Enterprise* that he began to use the pen name of "Mark Twain." The significance of the name may not be generally known. It is the cry used on a river steamer when the lookout throws the lead and finds the depth of the water to be just two fathoms. When this happens the lookout calls "mark twain," which means "at the mark of two fathoms." Mr. Clemens heard this cry a good many times on the Mississippi River steamers and it suggested the *nom de plume* by which he is better known than by his own name.

After leaving Nevada Mark Twain went to California and became a reporter in San Francisco and he afterward worked in the gold diggings in Calaveras. He spent several months

on the Sandwich islands in the year 1866, and on his return he began to lecture. Two years later he went with a party of friends up the Mediterranean to Egypt and Palestine, the outcome being that rollicking book, "Innocents Abroad." After editing a paper in Buffalo for awhile he married and made his permanent home in Hartford. He became a member of the firm of C. L. Webster & Co., publishers, and for a time the firm was most prosperous; then it met with reverses and went under, carrying the greater part of Mark Twain's handsome fortune with it. Then Mr. Clemens set himself the task of paying the creditors every dollar due them. It is said that he has done this, having earned the money by writing and lecturing.

Speaking of this matter Mark Twain said: "I am not a business man, and honor is a harder master than the law. It cannot compromise for less than one hundred cents on the dollar, and its debts never outlaw. I had a two-thirds interest in the publishing firm, whose capital I furnished. If the firm had prospered I should have expected to have collected two-thirds of the profits. As it is, I expect to pay all the debts."

This lofty sense of honor has endeared Mark Twain more than ever to his countrymen. It has taken him nine years to pay this indebtedness. He has spent the winter in New York and will now go to his old home in Hartford, where he will work or play as he pleases. He has certainly earned the right to have his choice in regard to the matter.

## Have You Hay-Fever or Asthma?

Medical Science at last reports a positive cure for Asthma and Hay-fever in the wonderful Kola Plant, a new botanical discovery found on the Congo River, West Africa. Its cures are really marvelous. Hon. L. G. Clute, of Greeley, Iowa, testifies that for three years he had to sleep propped up in a chair in Hay-fever season, being unable to lie down night or day. The Kola Plant cured him at once. Rev. J. L. Combs of Martinsburg, W. Va., writes that it cured him of Asthma of fifty years standing. To make the matter sure, these and hundreds of other cures are sworn to before a notary public. So great is their faith in its wonderful curative powers, the Kola Importing Co., of 1164 Broadway, New York, to make it known, are sending out large cases of the Kola Compound free to all sufferers from Hay-fever or Asthma. All they ask in return is that when cured yourself you will tell your neighbors about it. Send your name and address on a postal card, and they will send you a large case by mail free. It costs you nothing, and you should surely try it.

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When I say I cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office.

Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St., N. Y.

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This Easy Chair is Full of Durability and Utility.

The style was invented in England many years ago by William Morris, the celebrated London artist. He built it from a knowledge of anatomy. He was also a famous designer of artist furniture. It is therefore called the Morris Chair. It is made of the finest oak by a simple device in the back that it can be adjusted to either a lounging or upright position. It is the most useful and popular Easy Chair on the market, either in Europe or America to-day. It is finely upholstered and tufted. Every one needs at least one of these Chairs in their home, no matter how humble or great. They seem to just fit the tired body after a busy day's work, in fact it fits one's every mood. We have ordered many thousands of these Chairs direct from the Morris furniture factory and although the Morris Chairs are at many stores from \$15.00 to \$50.00 each, we are giving them away as Premiums for selling our Remedies.

## LACE CURTAINS FREE.

Sell only six pairs of electric Plasters at 25c each, while we each, while we trust you with and we will send you a pair of lace curtains. Nottingham Lace Curtains, each Curtain is nine feet long so you get six yards of Curtains in the pair, and as they are four feet wide for the two, they gather up nicely and furnish an elegant drapery for even the very broad windows in fact in many instances one pair would do for several windows, and just what any one needs to adorn the home with. Every one of taste will tell you that there is nothing which "dresses up" a room so much as a pair of lace curtains. The finest effects are obtained by these draperies. They are shown from the outside as well as from the inside. They are of the real Italian pattern and formerly sold as high as six or eight dollars a pair. They are delivered free to you, all charges paid. Don't fail to send for the six Plasters to-day, as soon as you sell them and send up in liberty. You get the curtains and learn all about the Morris Chair inducement. It will surprise you to do, but we do not give the \$15.00 Chair for selling only \$1.50 worth of goods as some firms profess to do, but we make you the most liberal, honest and straightforward offer ever put out. We are paying our agents over two dollars for selling only one dollar's worth of goods in order to get them advertised. We want to prove there is a sure prevention and cure for Lame Back, La Grippe, Coughs, Colds, Pneumonia, Rheumatism, etc., etc. Send for the six Plasters at once. THE GIANT PLASTER CO., Box C Augusta, Maine.

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GENTLEMEN: Do you realize I have been selling your remedies for the past nine years? After acting thus as your agent for this long period it is not flattery when I say to you that no business house exists that can surpass you in honesty and fair dealing—more, generosity to its patrons. Not one jar or the slightest cause for complaint is surely evidence beyond question in my nine years' dealings with you. May you live long to enjoy the good you are doing is the wish of  
Yours truly,  
FARRIE AUBUCHON.

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MUNCIE, INDIANA, Oct. 10th, 1900.  
THE GIANT CO. GENTLEMEN: After ten years of successful work for you I can truthfully say that you have more than done your duty agreed during my long period of selling your famous Remedies. There has nothing taken away from me for the last ten years from getting my first box of Giant Plasters. I have received so many and such nice ones, too, that I cannot possibly enumerate them. They were all of the best and perfectly satisfactory. I consider your firm one of the best in the United States and although I have had many letters to the Giant Plaster Co. for other concerns, I have always been true to the Giant Plaster Co., for they have been honest and faithful in carrying out their promises to me. Wishing you continued success, I remain,  
Yours truly,  
EMMA S. BRADLEY.

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Get Married 8000 ladies want to marry. Many rich. Send 2 cts. for photos and big sealed list with addresses and full descriptions. Satisfaction guaranteed. Union Corresponding Club, Box 608, Austin, Ill.

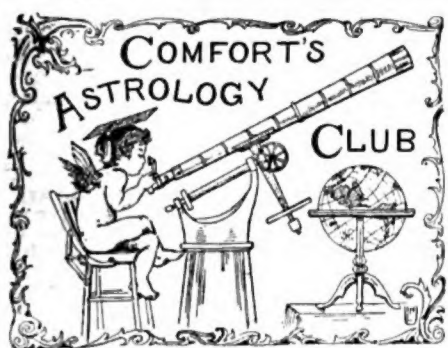
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A NOTTY WINK. and turn him down without any hard feeling. The eye is strongly made of metal, the front is painted in natural life-like colors and the wink is produced by pulling an invisible string from behind and there is a long strong pin to fasten through your clothing. The whole thing is strong and durable and the most talked about novelty today. Every one is wild for one, every young man in the big cities has one and all the girls too. "Just because she made Goo Goo eyes" is why you should have one so send 12c. today for a special sample. 6 for 60c.; 1 doz., \$1.00. Agents' make big money. Address SUNSHINE, Dept. C, Augusta, Maine.





CONDUCTED BY REGULUS.



HE great source of light and life touches the first point of Libra "crossing the line" into southern declination at about one minute past one o'clock in the afternoon of September 23rd, 1901, Washington Mean Time. At that moment the Autumn quarter commences.

In the figure of the heavens erected for that time, the last degrees of Sagittarius will be on the Ascending horizon and the 20th degree of Libra will be on the meridian. Jupiter, the greater benefic, rules the Ascendant and Venus, the lesser benefic, rules the midheaven and each of the benefices are in the angles which they thus rule and are in benevolent aspect with each other—a remarkable testimony of harmony between the people and the governing authorities of the country. The sun is past the meridian in the 9th house; Mercury is on the south meridian itself; Venus is in the 10th; Mars is on the 11th cusp; Herschel is in the 12th; Jupiter and Saturn are in the ascendant; the moon is close to the 2nd cusp, and Neptune is about to set in the West.

The promises of the figure continue to be good for the progress and welfare of the people and the country as a nation. In fact, nearly every figure for months has repeated the indications of our success and progress among the governments of the world. This figure has Mercury powerfully located on the midheaven, which points to some great discovery in our scientific world, or some wonderful intellectual or literary achievement during the autumn months. The books tell us that in such cases "Merchants and scribes, scholars and ingenious men are honored by the King."

## CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 1901.

**SEPTEMBER 1—Sunday.** A fair Sabbath day, though mental productions are likely to be erratic and unsatisfactory; the forenoon is the best part of the day.

**2—Monday.** Be careful in speech and correspondence in the forenoon hours and "make haste very slowly" in buying goods or forming judgments, for rashness will now work injury; the afternoon has the choicest conditions of the day and should be given preference for making beginnings and for money transactions of all kinds; when also thy purchases in business should be made and transactions pertaining to houses, lands, mines, wells, and all classes of excavations should be urged.

**3—Tuesday.** Begin this day early and continue thine efforts of yesterday with increased vigor; let literary productions of minor character be launched during the forenoon; urge correspondence, sign deeds and writings, and make agreements about improvement of real estate and the production of minerals, metals, etc.; deal with printers, mathematicians, scientists, inventors, and all in the literary callings.

**4—Wednesday.** Give preference to this day for transactions pertaining to the elegant pursuits, polite literature, artistic labors and musical productions; though architectural work and decorative matters concerning real estate and building is best deferred a while.

**5—Thursday.** Choose not this day for beginning any important undertaking, for no matter how favorable the promises they prove delusive and are likely to result very disastrously. If this be the anniversary of thy birthday or if born about the 5th of March, June, or December of past years, both health and finances will need to be watched vigilantly for a season, as at then should not be surprised if baffled in business matters in many strange and unexpected ways. Marriageable ladies born about the dates indicated had better be slow to accept the matrimonial proffer made at this time, and married ladies so born should do nothing to invite strange matrimonial infidelities with or through their life partners, or in the family relations; lovers will need to be careful that engagements are not broken during these passing days.

**6—Friday.** Look out for the pennies on this day lest they take to themselves wings and fly away, without benefit or advantage to thyself; do not sign any writings obligating thyself financially, nor buy any goods for trade or profit; shun business communications with large corporations and with public officials nor seek any favor from thine employer or persons having authority or being in command.

**7—Saturday.** The early morning is the least favorable part of this day when no transactions concerned with buildings, excavations, or embankments should be had; do not deal in timber, wood, coal, petroleum, or building materials of any kind; as the forenoon advances, however, give every energy to thy business and seek favor from thy superior.

**8—Sunday.** An excellent day for improvement of the mind and for proper appreciation of the merits of literary and scientific productions; the mind, however, inclines rather more towards the sombre and reflective and the contemplation of the grand and sublime in nature and art than towards the flowery and ornate.

**9—Monday.** Avoid contentions and disputes during the morning for they will be easily provoked; have no surgical operation performed nor engage in experiments with explosives or dangerous chemicals; as the day advances let all energies be given to the prosecution of general business.

**10—Tuesday.** The elegant pursuits are more favored on this day and engagements in that direction are encouraged; art productions, musical and dramatic merchandise, dry and fancy goods and articles of adornment are best dealt in, and sales are likely to be more profitable than purchases; have no dealings with farmers, miners, builders, plumbers, or millwrights; money transactions are best deferred until the morrow.

**11—Wednesday.** One of the best days of the month which REGULUS recommends to his friends for the inauguration of the more important ventures of the passing time; have transactions relative to banking and money affairs, machinery and manufacturing materials, masonry, plumbing, building, agricultural and mining products and generally crowding all thine affairs; do not waste a moment of the choice influences that now prevail.

**12—Thursday.** This day is less to be depended upon for any important move. Have no dealings with government officials or persons in charge of great public works. Do not make any beginning in great ventures nor seek advancement in thy several avocations; railroad officials and employees will be short of patience and there is likely to be serious disagreement of master and servant in railroad matters.

**13—Friday.** An unfavorable day for the literary pursuits and when all business should be transacted with caution; thou wilt be wise to watch thine expenditures, avoid important contracts, and defer correspondence; those employed with the pen should act with great circumspection; errors of account are more than usually liable to be made in mercantile matters; be sure not to bind thyself as surety on this day unless willing to pay the bond.

**14—Saturday.** Avoid thy landlord in the morning nor have any dealings with contractors, miners, farmers, and persons engaged in the laborious and dirty avocations; the day improves as it advances and encourages the pursuit of general business; deal with inventors, scientists, antiquarians and persons noted for eccentricity of habit or dress; travel and remove in the afternoon.

**15—Sunday.** Were this other than the Sabbath day our friends would be urged to improve every moment in matters of art and music; the power of execution will be increased and the mind stimulated in such directions. The musical portion of religious services will be inspiring and effective.

**16—Monday.** Another of the cheering days of the

month and REGULUS commends it to his friends for urging their most important ventures; buy goods for trade, deal with bankers, judges, and moneyed men generally in the forenoon; use the afternoon for dealing with real estate men, plasterers, plumbers, gardeners, nurserymen, farmers, miners, and building contractors; put a bride on the tongue in the evening and avoid haste in all engagements in those hours.

**17—Tuesday.** Sign no contract pertaining to lands or their improvement; make no engagement in the literary world, nor deal with booksellers, printers, press-writers or other persons employed with the pen; persons in the literary callings in life have more baffling experiences than usual just at this time, especially if born about the 1st of January, 29th of March, 2nd of July or 3rd of October of past years; nor should they be discouraged if they do not make their usual progress, or if they are defeated or disappointed in their expectations.

**18—Wednesday.** Use the forenoon for seeking favor or advancement from thine employer or from persons in superior positions of control; use the day vigorously for all general business.

**19—Thursday.** Begin this day early and urge all business diligently. REGULUS particularly urges his friends in the intellectual pursuits to press their efforts in forwarding their several ventures; commercial men are favored at this time; make contracts, change residence, and let the mind be employed to the fullest extent; deal with printers, stationers, booksellers and councilors; apply for patents, register trade marks, and obtain copyrights.

**20—Friday.** A day contributing energy and inviting activity in nearly all the walks in life and especially those concerned with things that serve to please and gratify mankind.

**21—Saturday.** Give preference to the forenoon of this day for thy most vigorous efforts in business; purchase articles of dress or of a decorative nature, also musical and dramatic goods; deal with banks and persons of wealth, also persons of refinement and high social standing; as the evening approaches be not surprised to find thine efforts productive of less good if thou art not baffled altogether in forwarding thine undertakings; make no bargain for houses or land or its products in the late afternoon.

**22—Sunday.** A very fair Sabbath day, though more conducive to mental excitement and voluble and aggressive utterances than to logical discussion and legitimate conclusions.

**23—Monday.** Make personal applications to public officials and persons in authority for favor or advantage during the middle hours of the day and crowd all honorable undertakings to the utmost in the last two-thirds of the day.

**24—Tuesday.** Make no purchases of ornamental or fancy wares in the early part of this day but use the forenoon for crowding the general affairs of life; as the noon is passed put on the "cap of caution"; be not over-sensitive to rebuke from thine employer; be deliberate in judgment and see that no harm comes to thy interests through haste of speech or act; keep out of all disputes and be temperate in all things.

**25—Wednesday.** Another one of the bright days for all classes of commercial and mercantile transactions; for seeking loans or money accommodations; for all the literary undertakings and for most vigorous mental efforts.

**26—Thursday.** Continue thine efforts of yesterday without abatement until the early afternoon; engagements with architects and all persons in the polite and artistic callings in life; expect no favor from railroad employees in the afternoon but give all thine energies to business so far as it is possible in the late hours of the day.

**27—Friday.** Be in no haste to begin musical or artistic matters in the morning hours; choose not this day for thy wedding day, nor expect much profit or advantage from the elegant avocations or dealings with the fair sex; apoplectic and heart troubles are increased at this time; let surfeits, highly seasoned food and exciting drinks be avoided; religious and ecclesiastical matters suffer detriment.

**28—Saturday.** Deal not in real estate nor replenish thy stock in trade of woolsens; the day is unpromising; discouraging for the purse and embarrassing to the progress of enterprise. REGULUS advises all who claim this as a birthday anniversary or who were born about the 25th of March, or 26th of June or December of past years, to exercise more than ordinary care in matters of finance, avoiding the loss of surplus capital by not risking it at this time in new ventures. Be satisfied with moderate gains in established business, rather than taking new risks.

**29—Sunday.** The day does not promise well for mental exertion, or enjoyment of literary work, but otherwise is fair in promise.

**30—Monday.** Be up with the sun and urge business every moment of the day until the late afternoon; buy goods to sell again and deal with banks and the wealthy classes; push all real estate matters such as improvements, building, repairs, furnishing, renting and buying; the latter part of the day is unfavorable for the elegant avocations and dramatic, musical, and social engagements prove less profitable and satisfactory than usual.

## The Pacific Cable.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



SINCE the laying of the Atlantic cable the idea of a trans-Pacific cable has been often discussed and plans have been laid before Congress and private companies have become interested in the project from time to time. But it was not until the islands in the far Pacific came within the jurisdiction of the United States that a great need for a Pacific cable was felt. It is now costing our government not less than \$400,000 a year for cable communication to Manila and each message travels about 14,000 miles or nearly three fifths of the distance around the world. From our coast a message must go to Ireland, thence to England, from there across to France and overland to the Mediterranean, then by cable to northern Africa and by land and cable to Suez, through the Red Sea and Indian Ocean to India, Cochinchina and Hong Kong, and thence to Manila. In its travels the message must be repeated some fifteen times thus making errors very probable and secrecy impossible. Thus it will easily be seen that the United States government would be the better protected and would be financially favored by cable extending directly from our own shores to those of our possessions in the east. And there is little doubt but that the present year will see the commencement of the undertaking.

Already a British enterprise of this kind is on foot and Canada and Australia are pledged to help the home government in the carrying out of the project. The route of this cable will be from Vancouver, south-west to the Fanning Islands, thence to Norfolk Island and Australia and New Zealand (see map). Now as to the route of our American trans-Pacific cable, there are several propositions. It seems rather strange to the casual observer that a cable by way of Alaska and the Aleutian Islands should have been proposed, but the fact is that that route would be no longer than a direct line across the Pacific. It would be along the shore where the cable could be laid in shoal water making the risk of breaking far less but it would necessitate about fifteen stations and much of the line would have to be built or laid on territory belonging to foreign powers, which is a great disadvantage in times of war.

The President, in his message on this subject, recommended that a cable be built "wholly under control of the United States" and for this reason the southern route is the one which will doubtless be accepted. Before any route can be decided upon it is of great importance

that careful surveys be made of the bottom of the sea, the islands along the way and any obstacles which would hinder construction. This work has already been partly done by the U. S. S. "Nero". The report of this work is exceedingly interesting. The route surveyed is from San Francisco to Hawaii, thence by Midway Islands and Guam to Manila. The survey has found that near Midway Islands is an extraordinary submarine mountain rising from a depth of 2,200 fathoms to within 82 fathoms of the surface. Again near Guam is one of the deepest parts of the ocean yet sounded, where the sea floor sinks to a depth of over 4,000 fathoms. It is very important that all such elevations and depressions should be found before the laying of the cable is begun, for the cable must be carried around them and not over or through them. It is where the cable is bent over an elevation that it becomes weak and breaks, and the most level part of the sea floor is, for this reason, chosen.



The great length of each span of cable makes breakages very probable, and it will doubtless be decided to lay two parallel lines of cable so that if accident should happen to one the other could be used. It is also proposed to build a line from Hawaii to Fanning Island thus connecting with the British lines to Vancouver and Australia.

The probable cost of laying a trans Pacific cable will be about \$2,000,000 and the question is, shall the government bear this expense and own the cable, or shall a private company be formed, subsidized by the government. If the government undertakes it, the expense to those who will use the line will be less, as the government could better afford to wait some years for returns than could a private company. There is much expense, also, in maintaining and repairing the cable; a cable ship must be maintained which shall be always somewhere along the route of the cable, to repair in the shortest possible time any break, and in the Pacific it will probably be thought best to have more than one, owing to the long distances. And owing to the same conditions a very heavy cable must be used. The cable itself is of copper wire, wound with other wire to give it strength and covered with gutta percha. Often the whole is smeared with pitch to protect it from certain sea animals that attack it for the gutta percha.

There is now no longer any doubt of our need for a cable across the Pacific and it is the opinion of the statesmen of our country that the work should not be longer delayed. Within three years we shall be able to communicate with the Philippine Islands over rivers which belong to American citizens and which pass through lands of our own. The completion of this new cable will complete the circuit of electric messages around the world and bring the "new east" into close relation with the "new west."

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W. S. Harter, an honored and influential citizen of Nevada, Mo., makes a statement and an over-generous offer that comes in the shape of a proclamation of health to all afflicted with lost vitality



and its kindred ailments. His case was a most pitiable one, nightly emissions so draining and his constitution was weakened to such a degree that it was impossible for him to perform his duties. He spent hundreds of dollars for remedies and to specialists, but could not regain his vitality or check the awful nightly emissions. One day a brother lodge member called his attention to a remedy, in fact, implored Mr. Harter to take the remedy for his affliction; he did so, and in one month's time was entirely cured, his constitution rejuvenated and his vitality regained. To-day he is a man in every sense which that word would imply. Mr. Harter is not what one would call an immensely rich man, but his gratitude for this marvelous remedy is so great that he says he intends making his life's labor that of putting this remedy in the hands of all those afflicted as he was. Mr. Harter being a very conscientious man, thought perhaps the remedy may not prove in every case so wonderfully beneficial as it did in his. For this reason he gave fifty sufferers the treatment, and in every instance the same wonderful results were experienced as was in his case; so he now says he will send every sufferer of this death-dealing disease, Lost Manhood, and its kindred ailments, absolutely free the means which directed him to health and contentment. Any reader sending name and address to Mr. W. S. Harter, 232 Ash Street, Nevada, Mo., will receive without delay, and free of charge, this wonderful knowledge.

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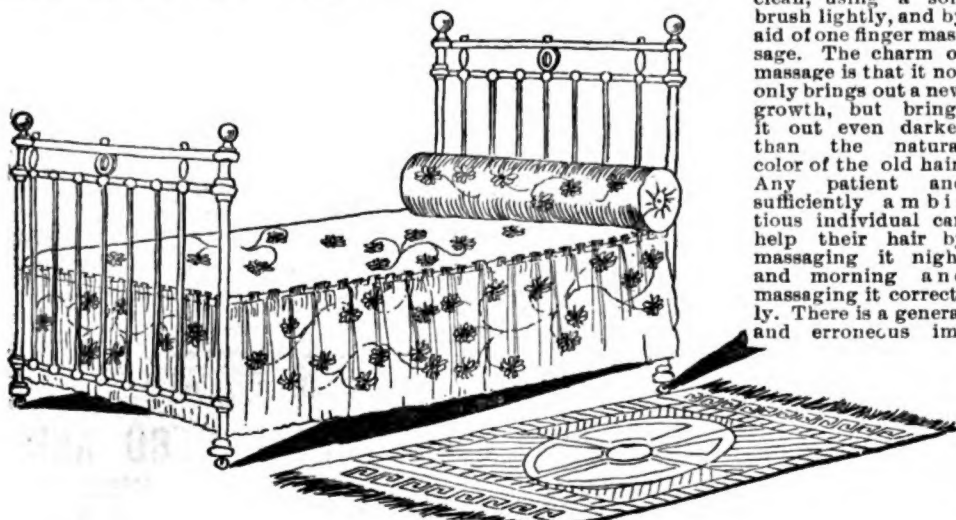
WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



lated home there should not be too much primness. The rooms should be brushed and dusted and put in order at least once a day, but stiffness and an air of too much order takes away the home feeling which should pervade the general living rooms of every home. But in the chambers it is best to preserve strict order, as an idea of disorder or confusion in a chamber takes away the restful feeling which should fall upon one on entering.

As the bed is the most conspicuous article of furniture, it should be given special attention in decoration, due care being given to the fact that careless guests may throw a suit case or dusty wraps on it, upon entering, for which reason materials that will launder well and easily should be chosen.

For beds in constant use, where the spread is removed every night, there is nothing so serviceable as a heavy white fringed spread, large enough so that the fringe will come to the floor on both sides and at the foot, forming a valance. With a spread of this kind (which costs \$3.50 and is easily laundered) use one of the papier mache bolsters, which are light and easy to handle. This should be covered with cambric of the color used in decorating the room, and then with white dotted muslin, gathered in at the ends, with a bow of ribbon. There should be a band of the ribbon around the center, with a big bow on top. This dresses



BED THROW OF SWISS MUSLIN.

the bed as much as is practicable in a chamber which has constant use. It is a good idea to spread a clean sheet across the foot of the bed, after the spread is adjusted, and then the tendency to lay garments on the bed may be indulged in, and the spread still be kept fresh, for the sheet gets the most of the rub and a fresh one can be put on often.

For the guest rooms, the usual style of bed cover is a piece of the material of exact size of the top of the bed, with a full ruffle on both sides and the foot, reaching to within an inch of the floor. A few years ago French striped percale in white with flowers on it was generally used, but now the thinner materials seem to be the favorites. One of white open work embroidered muslin made up over light blue, with bolster to match is very dainty, and looks as well after several washings as when new. Of course the lining and outside are made separately. A more delicate one is made of point de'sprit with lace edge around the ruffle. This one is made long enough to throw up over the bolster, instead of going underneath it. Those most in use now are of plain white or dotted Swiss muslin. The dotted ones are usually made up quite plain, as the dots are decoration enough. Where the breadths come, on top of the bed, an insertion is used, run through with satin ribbon. The plain muslin are made up usually with the hem of the valance hemstitched, and sprays or vines of flowers applied on. These flowers are cut from cretonne of the best quality, and are basted on in the manner desired and then buttonholed. A particularly pretty one for a violet room has large pansies applied in graceful wreaths, on both bed and bolster. Other flowers used are roses and daisies. In the latter case, the daisies are usually embroidered in ribbon work, as the flower is small and petals delicate.

One of our readers asks for information regarding care of the hair,—and while this is not strictly within the province of this department, it may be welcome to other readers as well.

To begin with, don't wash the hair too often. Twice a year is often enough for a soap and water shampoo, as water takes out the natural oil of the hair and brings on early grayness.

The tendency of dry hair is to grow coarse, and therefore a constant use of artificial oils is necessary after every washing. The thing to

do for stiff, hard hair that is growing gray is constant brushing. In the fall of the year, when the proper shedding of old hair can be expected, and again in the early spring, when the young growth comes on, a soft, light brush is the only kind to use. By this arrangement the bristles run through the hair without tearing or breaking the strands as they go, and yet they carry away all the loose lying dandruff on the surface of the scalp and all the dust that hangs in the tangled mesh of locks.

Brushing done in this way can't hurt the most sensitive scalp, while if the process is carefully gone through once a day the head can be kept so clean that it actually won't need washing more than once in two or three months.

If one is delicately cleanly and ambitious to possess fine, luxuriant, sweet-smelling hair one should never fail to brush her scalp and then her length of locks every night before retiring. After the dusty day her hair and head are as full of dust as an old unbeaten carpet, and every bit of deposit can be removed by going over her tresses and her scalp with clean, white brushes and then braiding the locks in two loose tails down the back; she will not only feel cleaner but sleep the better for the operation.

Gasoline or naphtha are the proper cleansers for hair brushes. After they have been plunged in a bowl of either liquid and rubbed quickly, one against the other, they should be set in the open air to dry, and thus in ten minutes will be ready for use again.

A head to be kept clean requires that the brushes be cleaned as often as three times a week; and now for washing the head itself. Shampoo it in tepid water and pure castile soap once in six months, not oftener, and at the season when trees and hedges are cut back clip off a quarter inch at the ends of the strands. That is quite enough pruning. After a shampoo the hair is terribly dry and stiff and then rub in a little of that precious brilliantine that a French chemist makes from the oil that Nature supplies in the sheep's fleece.

It is very pure, nourishing, and very lightly perfumed and looks like a jelly and costs a lot, but it brings the roughness out of hair unfailingly. After this treatment brush the head properly every night, and then once in six weeks, if one has been traveling or the weather is pretty hot, give the head a secondary cleaning. It is not a bit less thorough than the soap and water treatment, but it is far less heroic and one should alternate between a cleaning with wheat flour and one with naphtha.

If one objects to naphtha, which is dangerous, one can just as effectively but more slowly purify her hair by shaking into it a handful of wheat flour and then dividing the locks into sections brush out the white dust. Doing this three or four times produces a painful of refuse that by its color and consistency very clearly proves that the head has been rid of an amazing accumulation.

As a rule, hair that is turning gray and falling can, in a man or woman under 50, be checked in its evil courses by keeping it very clean, using a soft brush lightly, and by aid of one finger massage. The charm of massage is that it not only brings out a new growth, but brings it out even darker than the natural color of the old hair.

Any patient and sufficiently ambitious individual can help their hair by massaging it night and morning and massaging it correctly. There is a general and erroneous impression that to rub the scalp is to massage it, and so serious an error is this that if a perfectly healthy heavily thatched head is rubbed faithfully and persistently, all the hair will drop out.

To massage rightly and effectively, place one finger with a firm but not severe pressure on any spot and with it push the loose scalp under it with a regular rotary motion. After a few seconds move the finger along to another point and repeat this process, but never permit the finger end to slide upon or rub the scalp's surface. It seems a tedious method for inducing hair to grow, but for all its slowness it is sure, as no other process is, whether by application of patent liquids or not.

GERMANY is following the example set by England and America, and employing women in its government positions. They act as clerks and directors in small post-offices, and more recently have been employed as assistants in railway and telephone offices. In Norway, women have been for some time employed as Government telegraph operators and as station agents. In this latter capacity they not only attend to the train dispatching and to waiting upon travelers, but they manage the baggage as well.

WHEN the Duke of Clarence, afterward William IV., went down to Portsmouth to inspect the British seventy-four, the guide allotted to him was a battered old lieutenant with one eye, who lacking "a friend" at court, had served years without promotion. As the veteran removed his hat to salute his royal visitor, the latter remarked his baldness, and said jestingly, "I see my friend, you have not spared your hair in your country's service."

"Why, your Royal Highness," answered the old "sailor," "so many young fellows have stepped over my head that it's a wonder that I have any hair left." A few days after the "old sailor" was surprised to receive his appointment as captain.

## Coffee and Cocoa.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



attempting to close the saloons of today, and the next resort was to levy a heavy tax on the sale of the beverage.

The Moslem religion prohibits the use of wines, or spirituous liquors of any kind, but its followers are the most inveterate coffee-drinkers of the whole world, and at one time the Turk who failed to provide coffee for his wife was held to have given good legal cause for a divorce.

History shows that coffee was used in Arabia Felix at a very early period, though it was unknown to Europeans until introduced by Ramo-widius, in 1573. About twenty years later, Alpinus gave the first scientific description of the nature and properties of the plant.

Some coffee berries, procured at Mocha, were carried to Batavia and planted. In 1690, Governor Wilson sent a specimen to Amsterdam, where it was successfully cultivated and plants supplied to a great part of Europe and the East Indies. In 1714, a plant was presented to Louis XIV. of France by the Magistrate of Amsterdam. This was planted at Marley, under the care of a famous gardener, who, later on, gave a plant to a young officer in the French navy, who carried it to Martinique, and this plant was the beginning of the extensive coffee plantations of the French West Indies, Mexico and South America.

The coffee plant is an evergreen tree, growing about twelve feet high, as a rule, though occasionally one will reach a height of twenty feet, and it is quite generally conceded that all coffee plants are of one species, though changes of soil, climate and methods of culture produce seemingly different and distinct varieties.

In some places the trees will mature and be at their best in three years, and often begin bearing when but two years old.

The work of securing the coffee crop is very great, for when the trees are in full bearing a man must work faithfully to pick three bushels of berries per day. A bushel of berries will yield about ten pounds of merchantable coffee, but it will take the product of five good trees, for more trees yield less than two pounds than over that amount.

One method of curing the berries for market is to spread them in layers five or six inches deep, and leave them exposed to the sun. The pulp which surrounds the berries will ferment in a couple of days, after which time the berries are left for about three weeks, to get thoroughly dry before running them through a mill to separate the husks from the seeds. Another method is to put the berries through a mill made for the purpose, as soon as they are gathered. This mill crushes the pulp and washes it away. The berries are then dried for about two weeks, and then put through a mill as in the first method.

It is a universally admitted fact that cocoa is a healthier drink than coffee, and its use is becoming more common every year. The term cocoa is a perverted form of *Cacao*, the plant which produces it being the *Theobroma Cacao*, which furnishes both the so-called cocoa, and the chocolate of commerce. Dinnaeus knew the plant, and valued it so highly that he gave it the name, which is derived from the two words, *theos*, meaning a god and, *broma*, a food, which being freely translated forms the name commonly used in his day—Food of the gods.

When Cortez invaded Mexico, in 1519, he found the natives using the product of the trees as both food and drink, and also using the seeds of the fruit as currency in all sorts of business transactions.

The first known mention made of its use in England was in 1657, fully one hundred and thirty years after it was commonly used in Spain, while the first offered for sale in the United States, so far as known, was advertised by Amos Trask, at Danvers, Mass., 1771.

In these earlier times, people bought the dry berries, as imported, and took them to local mills for grinding, as the farmers of to-day take their wheat and other grains.

The tree, which is a native of the West Indies and Central and South America, grows to be about sixteen feet in height and presents a very peculiar appearance, from the fact that the fruit pods, which are irregular in shape, and average a foot in length by six inches in circumference, grow directly off the old wood, and look like immense warts, on the trunk and branches of the tree.

The fruit pods are smooth, with a fleshy rind

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FREE FOR A CLUB OF FOUR.

A New Style All Steel Combination Rifle for Birds or Game

using shot that can be obtained anywhere at a trifling expense, also shoot darts making it desirable for outdoor target practice or parlor amusement or it can be used in any part of the house with perfect safety, making a practical and entertaining form of evening amusement for the boys and girls as well as older people. This gun, it is endorsed by army officers as the best mechanical rifle ever produced and the possession of one of our accurate shooting air rifles makes a boy manly and affords him the use of a rifle. Remember this is a combination gun, so your boy should have one be he old or young. If he is sick in the house he can shoot darts and keep out of mischief or go into the woods for game and get robust and healthy besides. SPECIAL. Send at once for sample copies of our big monthly and subscription blanks and canvases among the neighbors. For a club of four yearly subscribers at the popular price of 25c. each. \$1.00 in all. we will send one of these King Pneumatic Rifles free as a present, all charges paid, guaranteeing absolute satisfaction, or we will refund one rifle as above for \$1.17. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine. Remember the above is a real gun, nearly three feet long. It looks like a gun and shoots like a gun.

about half an inch in thickness. Enclosed in this rind is a white substance of butter-like consistency, which separates from the rind when ripe. There are two tests which will decide whether fruit is ripe or not. The first is the color, which should be a rich yellowish-red, and the other is the noise made by the seeds, which will rattle loudly if the pod is shaken.

When the fruit is ripe, it is gathered and split open to remove the seeds, which will average seventy-five to the pod, and are as large as almonds. The seeds are sweated for two days, and then dried in the sun for two weeks before being packed for shipment.

To prepare for use, the seeds are roasted before grinding. When rather coarsely ground it is ordinary cocoa; if finely pulverized and part of the fat, or oil, removed, the resulting product is our breakfast cocoa.

When the seeds are so finely pulverized that the product is a plastic mass, from which no fat is removed, it is plain, or bitter, chocolate and this is mixed with sugar and flavors to make the sweet chocolate of commerce.

The fruit requires about four months for development, but like many tropical fruits, the tree will show blossoms, and fruit in all stages of development, at all seasons of the year, though the greatest crops seem to be ready for gathering in June and December.

LUMINOUS paint is used on trains in Belgium to illuminate the carriages that are not supplied with lamps while they are passing through tunnels in the day time. The upper part of the interior of the car is covered, and emits enough light to make reading a possibility.

BRICK are now being burnt by electricity, which promises to revolutionize the industry by greatly reducing the labor and cost. The wet clay is put into a covered iron mould which holds 1000 bricks, a strong current of electricity is turned on and in a short time the bricks are dried and burnt, and all ready for sale.

PAPER bottles, for ship use particularly, have been invented by a German paper maker. The bottles are made of a composition and are water tight. They may be handled roughly without the least danger, and the pitching and tossing of a great ocean liner would not injure them in the least.

## TO BUFFALO IT IS.

Barnum's great circus was called the greatest show on earth, and even with its carefully worked out details it is not comparable to the Pan-American Exposition which is now showing at Buffalo.

The buildings are beautiful to behold the electric effects nothing short of marvelous, the exhibits of a character interesting and instructive, the grounds truly a bewildering paradise, the midway, without exception, the most complete ever opened for public visitation, and all this in one of the finest cities in the country.

The Boston & Maine R. R. will carry you to Buffalo from any New England point, over a variety of routes either one of which is picturesque and worth traversing. The car service is complete and the equipment of Pullman parlor and sleeping cars is of a high standard of excellence. The trains are fast ones and the rates low enough to attract every tourist. If you are going to do the Pan-American, send your address to General Passenger Department, Boston & Maine R. R., Boston, for the forty-page Exposition Book.

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